

Genscher heads for Mideast

BONN (AP) — Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher left Friday on a five-day official trip to Syria, Kuwait and Egypt, his ministry said. In Damascus, his first stop, Mr. Genscher was to meet with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Shara'a to discuss Middle East affairs and convey "Bonn's interest in the survival of a sovereign and unified Lebanon," the ministry said in a statement. Mr. Genscher next will meet with Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad in Kuwait to focus on the continuing Gulf war between Iran and Iraq. The West German minister is to arrive in Egypt on Monday and meet with President Hosni Mubarak at his summer residence in Alexandria, as well as with other top Egyptian officials in Cairo, the Foreign Ministry said.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Egypt calls on Israel to join NPT

GENEVA (R) — Egypt on Friday warned against the dangers of deploying nuclear weapons in the Middle East and called on Israel to join the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Foreign Minister Ahmad Esmat Abdul Meguid made the appeal at an 80-nation conference here to review the treaty, which came into force in 1970 and was ratified by 130 countries. He told delegates of Egypt's concern over reports by United Nations experts leaving "no doubt that Israel will acquire nuclear capability soon, if it has not done so already." Middle East security could never prevail if the deployment of nuclear weapons was threatened, he said. "If Israel is truly sincere in its desire for security and stability it must follow up that theoretical stance with a positive act" and join the NPT, he added. The Vatican meanwhile repeated calls from Pope John Paul for governments to reverse the current trend in the arms race and progressively reduce their stockpiles.

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King congratulates Malaysian leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes to Sultan Iskandar Johore of Malaysia congratulating him on the occasion of Malaysia's National Day. The King also wished the Malaysian monarch continuing good health and happiness and the Malaysian people further progress and prosperity.

Turkish police arrest Satti murder suspect

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkish police have arrested a suspect in connection with the murder of Jordanian diplomat Ziad Al Satti in Ankara on July 24, the French news agency, Agence France Presse, quoted informed sources as saying on Thursday. The Ankara-dated AFP dispatch did not identify the suspect, but quoted the sources as saying that he belonged to the extremist Abu Nidal group. The suspect was among six people detained by Turkish police for suspected membership in the Abu Nidal group, the sources quoted by AFP said.

Franjeh to announce new peace plan

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Former Lebanese President Suleiman Franjeh would hold a press conference on Tuesday to announce a new plan for a political solution to end the 10-year-old Lebanese civil war, according to informed sources. Former presidents Camille Chamoun and Charles Helou held talks last week with Mr. Franjeh in the latter's stronghold of Ehden and discussed the plan, according to the sources. The three former presidents agreed to continue contacts and consultations, the sources said.

Tunis says Libyan agents ransacked diplomat's home

TUNIS (R) — Libyan agents have ransacked the home of a Tunisian diplomat in Tripoli and stolen some valuable items, the official TAP news agency said Friday. It said members of "organisations responsible to the Libyan regime" broke into the home of Mohammed Abbas, a diplomat working at the Tunisian mission in Tripoli who was away on holiday. The house was ransacked and several items of value stolen, the agency said. Relations between Tunisia and Libya have plunged to a new low following Tripoli's expulsion of tens of thousands of Tunisian emigrant workers over recent weeks. TAP said 27,893 Tunisians have been expelled.

Nixon in Seoul

SEOUL (AP) — Former U.S. President Richard M. Nixon arrived here Friday for a three-day visit during which he will meet South Korean President Chun Doo-Hwan and other leaders. He arrived from Japan on the second leg of a tour which also will take him to China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia and Pakistan. Korean officials said Mr. Nixon is here as a guest of the government.

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Iraq reports new bombing raid on Kharg terminal

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said its warplanes hit Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island in the northern Gulf on Friday for the third time in 15 days.

The aircraft dropped twelve 500 kilogramme bombs on the terminal, a military spokesman said, adding: "Tongues of flame and columns of smoke" were seen billowing from the targets. The attack, at 5:05 a.m. (0105 GMT), was intended to hinder salvage operation and prevent Iran repairing damage inflicted in the two previous strikes, he said. He gave no further details, but said all the aircraft returned safely to base.

Iraq reported air attacks on Kharg on Aug. 15 and 25.

Iran made no official comment on the first raid, which Iraq said reduced the vital oil installations to ashes, but an Iranian diplomat in Istanbul dismissed it as unimportant.

Tehran Radio last Monday quoted a war information spokesman as saying the second attack involved only "a few bombs in the waters".

Kharg Island handles most of Iran's daily crude oil exports of about 1.5 million barrels. Iraq began attacking tankers serving the terminal in March last year in an effort to strangle the oil exports needed to finance Iran's war effort.

Iran, which has been at war with Iraq since September 1980, has

responded by attacking tankers and other vessels on the western side of the Gulf.

Since early this year it has been shutting crude in chartered tankers from Kharg to a makeshift terminal off Sirri Island, lower down the Gulf, to enable its warplanes to load out of range of Iraqi warplanes.

Maritime shipping and Arab diplomatic sources along the Gulf said the Iraqi raids were an indication that Kharg's air defences are by no means impenetrable. "According to confirmed reports, the Iraqis have successfully raided Kharg at least twice, said one Arab diplomat, based in Kuwait. "This is certainly a disquieting escalation in the war. And we expect Iran to retaliate by attacking oil tankers in the international waters" well south of the war zone.

Three days after the first attack on Kharg, military aircraft ransacked the 45,700-ton Belgian tanker Naess Leopard at a point in the Gulf waters 40 kilometres east of Jatar.

Marine salvage companies viewed this as Iran's retaliation for the Iraqi attack on Kharg.

The Naess Leopard later anchored off the Dubai port, where U.S. navy bomb disposal experts

extricated and defused an unexploded rocket aboard it, according to shipping sources here. In announcing the third raid on Kharg, the Iraqi military spokesman said "no target in Iran will be spared, and no target is out of reach for Iraq's long and strong arm."

At least one of the three jetties on Kharg has been closed for repairs, and the daily rate of oil loading there has dropped by about 25 per cent as a result of the Aug. 15 raid, according to one European marine salvage company executive.

Shipping company radio operators said that at least 10 salvage tugboats have been posted in scattered locations along the south-eastern sector of the Gulf waters, to be at hand for prompt assistance in the event of an Iranian attack on shipping.

"Last time, the Naess Leopard rejected our offer to help out," said one salvage officer. "But we maintain tugboats at the Shah Olam region as a routine precaution."

The Naess Leopard was struck near Shah Olam, an area favoured by Iran for retaliatory attacks on merchant vessels.

Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani has repeatedly warned that if the Gulf tanker sea lanes became insecure for his country's shipping "we would make them insecure for all" countries of the region.

Bustling trade continues between UAE and Iran despite war, page 2

Lagos coup leaders expose secret police detention camps

LAGOS (Agencies) — Nigeria's new military rulers have thrown open the country's most notorious secret police detention centres in a fresh move to end alleged human rights abuses under the ousted government of Major-General Mohammed Buhari.

Deputy Police Inspector-General Mohammed Gambo said on state television late Thursday night that 101 people were being held illegally by the Nigerian Security Organisation (NSO) at their interrogation centre in Lagos alone.

Gen. Gambo, who took reporters round the NSO's main interrogation centre in the high class Ikoyi district of Lagos, said some of the detainees had been held for more than 18 months.

Nigerian Television showed film of the dishevelled inmates, most of them wearing only a towel around their waist.

One had a fractured skull and wounds on his back and buttocks. Gen. Gambo said most were in "battered condition" apparently after interrogation by NSO officials whose boss, former diplomat Mohammed Rafindadi, has been held since Tuesday's coup.

He was shown on television watching the inmates as Gen. Gambo spoke to reporters on Thursday. Gen. Gambo identified one of the detainees as a West German national and newspapers said Friday that an American woman and an unspecified number of other foreigners were also being held, mostly on allegations of illegal entry.

It was not immediately clear whether all those said to have been illegally detained had been freed.

Nigeria's new military president, Major-General Ibrahim

Babangida, said in his first broadcast on Tuesday that his government would look into human rights abuses under the Buhari regime in which he served as chief of army staff.

Gen. Babangida was sworn in a 28-member ruling council Friday to replace Gen. Buhari's disbanded supreme military council. Many former members of the defunct council have retained their positions.

Gen. Babangida's post in the old administration goes to a Major-General Sani Abacha, who led a coup that returned the military to power in 1983 after only four years of democracy.

Former civilian President Shehu Shagari has been under house arrest since that coup and the new regime has not yet indicated whether he will be freed.

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Bonn hints at deeper aspects of spy scandal

BONN (Agencies) — A top West German counterespionage official who was released after questioning remains under investigation concerning his ties to another agent who disappeared recently and is suspected of working for East Germany, authorities said Friday.

Officials are probing the friendship of Reinhard Liebetanz, a section chief of the Constitutional Protection Office in Cologne, with Eberhard Severin, who disappeared recently after being unmasked as a communist spy, said Wighard Haerdtd, a spokesman for the Bonn Interior Ministry.

Mr. Severin, who is being sought by West German and Austrian authorities, "was obviously active in an intelligence agency, probably the East German one, and tried to gain information through his friendships with Liebetanz, possibly with others," Haerdtd said.

"How much success Severin had is what we must yet determine," Haerdtd told the As-

ociated Press.

A spokesman for the federal prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe, Hans-Juergen Foerster, confirmed that the probe of Mr. Liebetanz continues.

Mr. Liebetanz was arrested Thursday, interrogated and released after it was determined there was not enough evidence to charge him, but his case remains open, Foerster said.

Mr. Liebetanz is reportedly vacationing, and there was no answer at his home telephone in Cologne Friday.

He is the second ranking West German counterespionage official to come under suspicion this month. Hans-Joachim Tiedge, who had been in charge of tracking East German spies in West Germany, defected to East Berlin last week and is believed to have seriously compromised West German intelligence.

The West Germans are trying to unmask Mr. Tiedge through the East German government, but

(Continued on page 3)



'EID PRAYERS: His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Sha-

ter, cabinet and parliament members and senior officials pray at Amman's Al Faiba Mosque on Monday, the first day of 'Eid Al Adha (see story on page 3)

Israel holds 29 Palestinians without trial, assails Arafat

OCCUPIED WEST BANK (Agencies) — Israel on Friday detained another 14 Palestinians without trial in the occupied West Bank and said it had no faith in what it called Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's intentions to achieve a Middle East peace settlement.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres, talking to a group of French socialists, sharply attacked the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader for the second time this week.

"I have faith in the sincerity of Jordan's intentions to achieve peace with us. I have no faith in Arafat," he said.

The Israeli occupation forces, which have launched a new campaign in the West Bank, rounded up 14 Palestinians overnight and erected a chain of roadblocks across the occupied territory.

The military said the 14 were suspected of "subversive" ac-

tivities and were placed under "administrative detention", which enables the occupation army to hold people for six months without trial.

The action followed a similar operation on Thursday when the army ordered the expulsion of three Palestinians from the West Bank and detained 15 without trial.

Last Tuesday, Mr. Peres charged Mr. Arafat was personally directing guerrilla activities against Israel, which have escalated recently.

On Friday, he reiterated that Israel wanted direct talks with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, excluding the PLO.

"The PLO may be interested in negotiations with the United States but it is opposed to a peaceful settlement with us," Mr. Peres contended.

The occupation authorities' arrests on Thursday and Friday

were part of government moves against Palestinian attacks that have killed at least 12 Israelis this year. However, there had been no concrete evidence to prove that Palestinians were responsible for the attacks.

They also came hours after a 59-year-old rabbi, was stabbed and wounded outside Jerusalem and six days after the slaying of an Israeli man and another wounded in two shooting attacks in the West Bank.

In a statement, the occupation authorities alleged that the detainees were held "because of their subversive and political activities".

Shmuel Goren, the Israeli coordinator for the occupied territories, told Israel Television that Israel would continue deporting "those who engage in incitement".

Kahane gaining increased support, poll shows, page 2

U.S., Soviets 'interested' in U.N. plan for Afghanistan

GENEVA (R) — The United States and the Soviet Union were asked formally to guarantee a United Nations peace plan for the Afghan conflict and both have expressed interest, U.N. special representative Diego Cordovez said Friday.

The Kabul government, backed by some 115,000 Soviet troops, and neighbouring Pakistan agreed during U.N.-sponsored talks last June to ask the superpowers to act as guarantors, he told reporters.

A final text of the request was sent to Washington and Moscow, and both replied that "they were interested and support" the U.N. peace effort, Mr. Cordovez said. Acceptable guarantors was one point on a four-point U.N. peace plan.

Mr. Cordovez was speaking after the latest round of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan ended Friday. A sixth round will be held on Dec. 16-20. The talks began in June 1982.

Mr. Cordovez shuttled between the delegations for two days. They were in separate rooms at U.N. European headquarters because Pakistan refuses to recognise the Kabul government which came to power with the Soviet military move into Afghanistan in December 1979.

The talks centre on securing withdrawal of the Soviet army and return of 4.5 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran. Many refugees support anti-communist guerrillas fighting the Kabul government.

Surveying progress on the four-point United Nations peace plan, Mr. Cordovez said:

- 1) Agreement on non-intervention and non-interference — virtually completed.
- 2) Agreement on international guarantors for a settlement — completed.
- 3) Agreement on repatriation of more than three million Afghan

(Continued on page 3)

EC envoys arrive in Pretoria, seek role in abolishing racism

PRETORIA (Agencies) — A top-level European Community (EC) delegation flew into South Africa on Friday, saying they wanted to help abolish apartheid.

The mission came amid rising tension in black townships where over 20 people have died in the past three days (see page 8) and a deep financial crisis that has forced the emergency closure of the stock and foreign-exchange markets until Monday.

European Community Ministers' Council President Jacques Poos, of Luxembourg, told reporters that he and Hans van den Broek of the Netherlands and Italy's Giulio Andreotti wanted to make known the community's "strong preoccupation with apartheid and our wish to contribute to its abolition."

The delegation, which also includes European External Relations Commissioner Willy de Clercq, will fly on Saturday to Cape Town, focus of the worst current unrest, for talks with President P.W. Botha, Western diplomats said.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Bishop Desmond Tutu and church leader Beyers Naude have reluctantly agreed to see the mission, but warned they would not see other delegations that accepted government conditions on their visit.

The EC trio planned to meet Foreign Minister R.F. Botha later in the day in Pretoria. The foreign minister was unable to meet the delegation because he was on a brief visit to the black homeland of Bophuthatswana early Friday with the president.

Foreign Minister Botha had said Monday the Europeans should not bother to come if they planned to dictate to South Africa how and when it should dismantle apartheid, but they would be welcome on a fact-finding mission.

Pretoria rejected a request for the ministers to see black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, jailed for life in 1964 for plotting

to topple the white government.

South Africa's most powerful black Union, the National Union of Mineworkers, said Friday that its members were pressing ahead with plans for a potentially violent strike on Sunday on five gold and two coal mines.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union, in its strongest attack on South Africa's white authorities during the current unrest, has demanded an immediate end to apartheid and condemned U.S. links with the Pretoria government.

A statement by the Soviet news agency TASS, described South Africa's racial segregation laws as a dangerous source of tension in the region and called for the release of Mr. Mandela.

The statement was the highest-level condemnation of South Africa since a state of emergency was imposed in parts of the country last month. Previous Soviet com-

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Bombay gas leak kills 1, injures 110

BOMBAY (Agencies) — One person was killed and 110 treated in hospital on Friday when chlorine gas leaked from a Bombay chemical factory during a demonstration by plant workers, police said.

They told Reuters chlorine gas escaped while it was being transferred from a 37-tonne capacity tank at the privately-owned Calico Mills in the Bombay suburb of Chembur.

The pipe transferring the chlorine suddenly burst in mid-afternoon while workers were holding a protest meeting at the factory gates over the plant's closure, police added.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said victims included 14 firemen and 12 policemen sent in to evacuate the plant.

The others were factory employees and people living near the factory in north-east Bombay, the country's main commercial city and port.

Huge clouds of gas spread over the area, sending residents rushing out to the streets, coughing and complaining of burning eyes, the agency said.

PTI said some of the injured were taken to hospital unconscious and in a serious condition.

A Bombay police spokesman said the situation was under control after firemen sprayed water onto the leaking pipe to cool it and dilute the chlorine.

The leak occurred while trades union leader Datta Samant, a member of parliament, was addressing workers outside the complex who have been striking for higher wages. Dr. Samant was among those affected by the gas.

A Calico Mills executive who asked not to be named told Reuters the workers were demonstrating over a redundancy notice issued to all staff after the plant,

ceased production on May 23. He did not give details.

Friday's incident was the second major chlorine gas leak in Bombay in the past two months.

On June 29, 113 people were taken to hospital from another industrial suburb when gas leaked from a drum carried by a truck.

Similar incidents have triggered panic flights of residents after the world's worst industrial accident hit the central Indian city of Bhopal last December.

About 2,500 people died on Dec. 3 when poison gas leaked from a Bhopal pesticides factory owned by the Indian subsidiary of the U.S. Union Carbide company.

CEROLL
Budapest
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Egyptian paper warns Israel against verbal attacks on Jordan

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's semi-official newspaper charged Friday that Israeli allegations that Jordan was becoming a base for "terrorism" were an obstacle to Middle East peace.

In a commentary, the state-owned Al-Ahram said Israeli warnings to Jordan were creating "a psychological atmosphere which does not help with negotiations" and may be aimed at undermining efforts to begin preliminary peace talks between the United States and a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation.

"Israel should be well advised to stretch out its hand of peace to Jordan and take a step toward it in return for Jordan's moves toward peace in recent times and not to return those moves with threats based on circumstances in which Jordan is not involved," Al-Ahram said.

The commentary followed statements last week by Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin that

Israel faces a growing danger from Jordan, which he claimed was allowing Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) commandos to operate on its territory.

On Aug. 22, Mr. Rabin told military academy graduates that "more and more terrorist elements" were arriving in Jordan, where they are "enjoying freedom of planning and initiative."

Mr. Rabin warned Jordan to crack down on the PLO "before matters reach a point where Israel won't be able to stand quietly opposite to what is likely to develop."

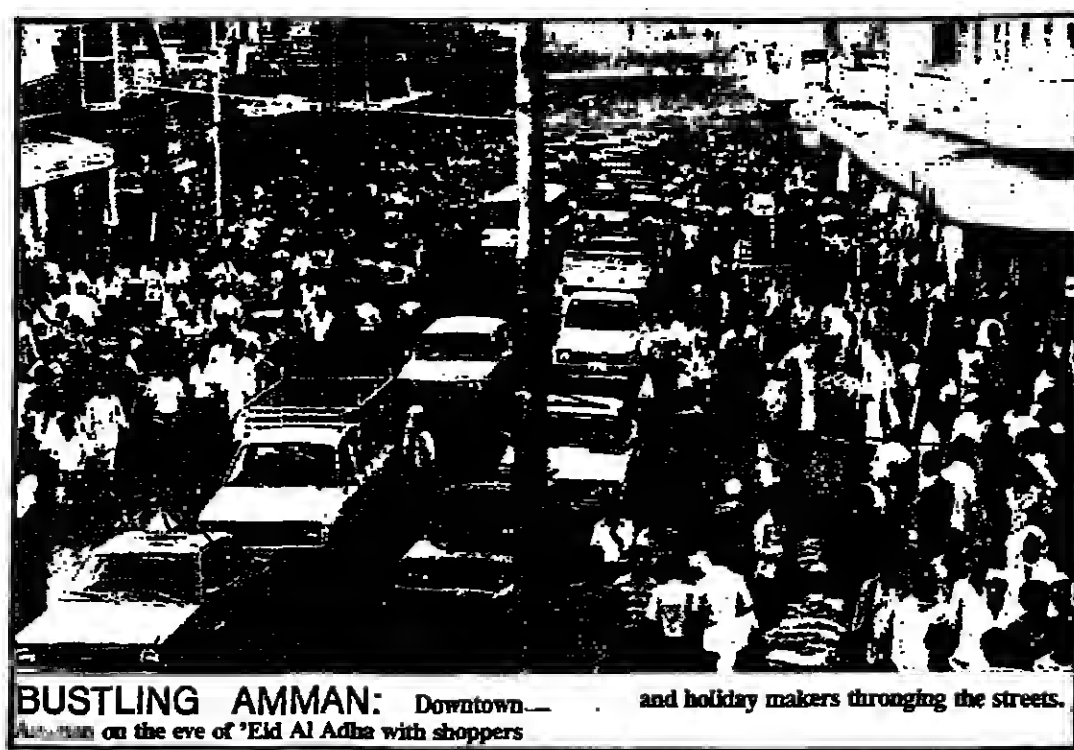
Al-Ahram said Israel knew that its allegations against Jordan were untrue and that Palestinian resistance was growing because the Jewish state was "blocking all out-

lets" to a peaceful Arab-Israeli settlement.

Egypt, the only Arab state which has established diplomatic relations with Israel, has been strongly supporting efforts by Jordan and Mr. Yasser Arafat's PLO to open a dialogue with the United States as a first step toward peace talks.

The initiative has bogged down in recent weeks because the United States and the Jordanians have been unable to agree on a list of Palestinians to take part in such talks. The United States has also failed to obtain a clear commitment from the Arabs that the contacts will lead to direct peace talks with Israel.

Israel and the United States have refused to deal with members of the PLO, which the Arabs recognise as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.



Amal seizes 30 for aiding Palestinians

NABATIYEH, Lebanon (AP) — Shi'ite Muslim Amal militiamen have seized 30 Lebanese suspected of helping Palestinian commandos set up a new network in South Lebanon, Amal said Friday.

Four of the suspects admitted receiving money from Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction. Amal security officials said in Nabatiyeh, 55 kilometers south of Beirut. The Syrian-backed Shi'ites have been clamping down on Pal-

estinians, especially Mr. Arafat's anti-Syrian loyalists, in Beirut and the South to block attempts to rebuild their Lebanon power base lost during Israel's 1982 invasion.

Mr. Arafat is reported to have been pumping millions of dollars into Lebanon in a bid to re-establish his network.

The Israelis withdrew from most of the mainly Shi'ite-inhabited South in June to a border buffer zone patrolled by their mainly Christian 'South Lebanon Army' (SLA) militias.

Amal moved in to take control

of the region and launch guerrilla attacks on the Israelis and the SLA.

Shi'ites and Palestinians fought a five-week war in Beirut's refugee camps last May and June. At least 600 people were killed and more than 2,500 wounded, most of them Palestinians.

Syria supports PLO dissidents who are trying to oust Mr. Arafat from the leadership of the commando organisation. Syria opposes Mr. Arafat's efforts with Jordan to reach a Middle East settlement.

Bustling trade continues between UAE, Iran despite war in Gulf

By Philip Shehadi

DUBAI (R) — Stacked high with anything from Korean chewing gum to Japanese pick-up trucks, traditional wooden Arab boats are playing a bustling Gulf trade route between this United Arab Emirates (UAE) port and Iran.

Trading and family ties between the emirates and Iran go back centuries.

"In the Gulf region, the ties between Iran and the UAE are the best," Iranian Ambassador to the UAE Mostafa Fomeni Al-Hafri told Reuters. "This state knows and understands the Islamic Republic better than its colleagues."

One reason is, perhaps, that some of Dubai's most prominent businessmen and officials are Iranians or of Iranian descent.

The UAE is the only member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which also includes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar, to have full ambassadorial relations with Iran.

In Dubai market or the crowded creek where the dhows lounge as Persian is as common a tongue as Arabic or Urdu. Ajami, an Arabised Persian dialect from Iran's southern coast, is spoken in homes throughout the Emirates.

The UAE's population of 1.2 million includes some 70,000-80,000 Iranian expatriates.

Iran is represented in the UAE not only by Ambassador Hafri, a religious scholar, but also by a personal representative of Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Based in Dubai, Hojatoleslam

Sayyid Raza Borghai acts as a religious advisor and oversees a considerable array of Iranian institutions. They include banks, schools, state trading companies and one of Dubai's largest hospitals, run by the Iranian Red Crescent.

Iranian sources say UAE's fears have now subsided that Iranian nationals would be a source of unrest following the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran.

Western diplomats say the UAE has skillfully balanced its commercial and strategic interests in good relations with Iran with its regional Arab alliances.

Gulf Arab states support Iraq in its five-year-old war with Iran. But the diplomats say the UAE tends to take a softer line on Iran in GCC meetings than other members.

Welcoming recent Iranian overtures toward Gulf Arab states, Dubai's Al-Bayan newspaper said, however, that Arab-Iranian friendship could not truly flourish until the war ended and it called on Iran to negotiate a settlement.

The diplomats say ties with both Iran and Iraq suit the UAE ideally for mediation between the warring countries, and point to the flurry of messages that continually pass between Tehran and the UAE, and the UAE and Baghdad.

"Iraq doesn't get too angry because of the UAE's ties to Iran. Everybody needs an Arab state the Iranians can and will talk to," one diplomat said.

Iraq Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz has called trade links between Dubai

and Iran "disgraceful".

Trade from Dubai to Iran received a boost in 1980, when the United States led a boycott of Western trade with Iran and the Gulf war disabled major Iranian ports in the northern Gulf.

Out of the apparent range of Iraqi attack, the Dubai dhow ply across the southern Gulf to the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas. Last year the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Line began roll-on/roll-off services from the UAE port of Sharjah.

The UAE also hosts the only air links to Iran from the Gulf. Iran Air passenger flights connect Dubai with the Iranian cities of Shiraz and Tehran eight times a week.

Last April, Iran held in Dubai its largest overseas trade fair since the revolution in Tehran. More than 240 firms participated in what Iranian officials described as the start of a Gulf export push.

Trade between Dubai and Iran grew from 335 million dirhams (\$91 million) in 1982 to 993 million dirhams (\$267 million) in 1983 but fell last year to 743 million dirhams (\$201 million), according to official figures.

Some 75 per cent of the trade from Dubai is re-exports, much of it remitted by Iranian expatriates. Iranians can ship home at low customs duties goods worth one million Iranian rials (\$11,000) a year for each year they have worked in the Gulf since the revolution.

The system was introduced to curb Iran's black market in hard currency.

Iranian group reports 5,000 executions

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's Mujahadeen underground movement issued an appeal Friday "to save the lives of 140,000 political prisoners in Iran," saying at least 5,000 people have been executed in the past 12 months.

Despite the crackdown by the Iranian government the strength of the resistance inside Iran increased 400 per cent, said a press statement issued by the Mujahadeen headquarters in Paris and telegraphed here.

In the 12 months since last September the Mujahadeen groups in Iran killed or wounded at least 1,500 Revolutionary Guards of the Khomeini regime in more than 320 clashes, the statement said.

Listing other operations, the statement said in the same period more than 800 military vehicles and "90 centres of suppression and torture have been destroyed and 1,350 other centres have been seriously damaged." Another 20 military aircraft and 540 vehicles were "temporarily put out of action."

The resistance also exploded more than "250 publicity-sonic bombs" and distributed four million leaflets calling for the overthrow of the regime of Iran's patriarch, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

"Of course the Khomeini regime has arrested tens of thousands of people during the past year, most of them innocent citizens. Reports received so far show that the regime has executed at least

5,000 people since Sept. 1," the statement added.

The statement said many of those executed had been arrested in previous years and in most cases were charged with supporting the Mujahadeen underground.

"According to completely reliable information we have received from inside Iran, the Khomeini regime intends to begin a new wave of executions of political prisoners."

"We therefore call on all international bodies and peace-loving organisations and groups and countries of the world to help save the lives of 140,000 political prisoners in Iran."

The statement said the new crackdown would follow a televised press conference in Tehran earlier this week by Information Minister Mohammad Reza Shahrari.

Describing Mr. Shahrari as "Khomeini's minister of Savak" (secret police), the statement said he had "failed to cover up the regime's impotence in the face of the broadly-based (Mujahadeen) movement."

Listing government successes against the underground, Mr. Shahrari was quoted by IRNA.

Ershad returns from pilgrimage

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — President Hussain Muhammad Ershad returned home Friday morning from Saudi Arabia after performing the pilgrimage to

Mecca. The president's wife Begum Raushan Ershad and Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury accompanied him during the pilgrim

Likud losing support to Kahane, poll shows

TEL AVIV (AP) — A poll published Friday shows Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Bloc has lost significant public support to anti-Arab Rabbi Meir Kahane and a small ultra-nationalist party.

If elections were held today, Likud would receive only 22 per cent of the vote, 14 per cent less than it received in last summer's election when it won 41 seats, according to the Hanoch and Rafi Smith poll, which was taken among 1,300 Jews between Aug. 16, and Aug. 22.

Kahane's Kach Party, which currently has only one seat in the 120-member parliament, would win nearly 10 seats in an election today, while the right-wing Tehiya Party, currently with five seats, would win between seven and eight legislative slots, the poll showed.

Labour would win 38 per cent of the vote, a scant one per cent more than it received in the 1984 elections when it won 44 seats.

But the left-wing Citizens Rights Movement, now in the opposition but likely to join with Labour in a narrow government, gained over five per cent of the vote, which would give it about six parliament seats, compared with the three it won in the last election.

The poll also showed that Mr. Peres continued to enjoy high personal popularity, with 62 per cent saying he was doing his job well, compared with 65 per cent in February. Shamir received an approval rating of 48 per cent, compared with 49 per cent in February.

The polls has a two per cent margin of error.

Smith warned in the English-language Jerusalem Post that the results of his poll "should be interpreted with caution since many times in the past the Likud has lost massive support in the polls only to recover all the support by election time."

In the elections held last summer, neither Labour nor Likud, Israel's two major parties, won by a large enough margin to take a majority in the parliament. The two rival parties joined in an unusual bipartisan government, currently led by Labour's Shimon Peres.

Michael Etgar, who published a poll earlier this week which showed similar results, noted that the growing support for Kahane at the expense of Likud seemed to be a protest from right-wing voters who are angry at Likud for not doing more to resist liberal government decisions.

The poll also showed that Mr. Peres continued to enjoy high personal popularity, with 62 per cent saying he was doing his job well, compared with 65 per cent in February. Shamir received an approval rating of 48 per cent, compared with 49 per cent in February.

The polls has a two per cent margin of error.

Shamir to visit Japan

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir will make an official visit to Japan on Sept. 6 to discuss strengthening economic ties, a spokesman announced Friday. Spokesman Ebad Gol said it would be the first official trip by an Israeli foreign minister to Japan. Abba Eban and Moshe Dayan made private visits

when they served in the post, he said. Shamir will be the guest of Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and may meet premier Yasuhiro Nakasone, Mr. Gol said. Israel and Japan have maintained full diplomatic ties since the Jewish state was founded in 1948.

Israeli emigration accelerates

The following is reprinted from a press release issued by CAARU (Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding).

LONDON — Ten thousand Israelis emigrated last year, compared with only 4,700 in 1983, according to the Bank of Israel's recently published annual report, which based its assessment on the number of Israelis who had not returned after a period of at least one year abroad.

Meanwhile, Israel's recently imposed \$300 per head travel tax is prompting hundreds of Israeli

emigres to relinquish their citizenship, since they too are subject to the tax each time they depart from Israel after visits.

The Hebrew daily Davar said that hundreds had applied at Israel's Brussels consulate to give up their citizenship. The consulates in Boston and Paris had respectively reported an average of ten and twenty such requests per day.

Surveys reveal widespread anti-Arab racism in Israel

The following is reprinted from a press release issued by CAARU (Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding).

LONDON — Recent public opinion surveys in Israel have revealed an alarming lack of commitment to democracy and widespread anti-Arab racism, according to the Hebrew daily Yedioth Aharonot.

One survey showed that 31 per cent of Israelis are against political parties and a democratic system of government, and would prefer a regime based on a single leader. They also believe that there is

"too much freedom" in Israel.

Another survey, conducted by Jerusalem's Hebrew University, showed that half of all Israeli secondary school students opposed equality for Israeli Arabs.

Many Israelis evidently view the future with disquiet. One survey showed that 6.1 per cent of Israelis were about to emigrate, while another 3 per cent were considering emigration.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
MAIN CHANNEL	
07:30	Koran
07:30	Children's Program
08:30	Programme on Flowers
09:30	Local Programme
10:30	Programme Review
11:30	News Programme
12:30	News in Arabic
13:30	Arabic Series
14:30	Tomorrow's Programmes
15:30	Local programme on the latest books published
16:30	Arabic series
17:30	News in Arabic
18:30	German Programme
19:30	L'Ecole des arts
20:30	Bonjour Bon appetit
21:30	News in French
22:30	Le vent du large
23:30	News in English
24:30	Feature Film: Reunion at Fairborough
RADIO JORDAN	
853 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & 95.50 KHz, SW	
Tel: 774111-19	
07:30	Light Music
08:30	Newsweek
09:30	Morning Show
10:30	News Summary
11:30	Top Session
12:00	News Summary
12:30	Pop Session cont.
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Pop Session cont.
14:00	News Summary
14:30	Jordan Weekly
15:00	Music
15:30	Concert Hour
16:30	News Summary
17:00	Old Favorites
17:30	Animal Vegetable Mineral
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Top Twenty
19:00	News
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	The 15th Century A.H.
20:30	The Young Show
21:00	News Summary
21:30	25 Years of Rock
22:00	News Summary
22:30	The Blues
23:00	News Summary
23:30	Country Music
24:00	News Headlines
24:30	Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE	
639, 720, 1413 KHz	
07:00	Newsweek 07:30 That's That 07:45
08:00	Financial News 7:55 Reflections 08:50
09:00	World News 08:50 News Summary 09:30
10:00	About Britain 09:45 The World Today 09:50 Newsweek 09:50 Album
11:00	Time 10:50 World News 10:59 24 Hours: News Summary 11:30 From the
12:00	Weekend 11:55 Network U.K. 11:59
13:00	World News 11:59 Reflections 11:15 A
14:00	Jolly Good Show 12:00 World News
15:00	12:59 British Press Review 12:15 The
16:00	World News 12:59 News Summary 13:00
17:00	Look Ahead 12:45 The Age of
18:00	Elegance 13:00 News Summary: That's
19:00	That's 13:30 People and Politics 14:00
20:00	News About Britain 14:15 About Britain
21:00	14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio News
22:00	15:15 Anything Goes 15:45 Sports
23:00	Round-up 16:00 World News 16:09
24:00	Twenty-four Hours: News Summary
01:00	Le vent du large 16:30 News Summary
02:00	Music Profile 17:00 News Summary
03:00	Saturday Special 17:30 Album Time
04:00	18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15 Saturday
05:00	Special 18:30 World News 19:00 Com-
06:00	mentary 19:15 Saturday Special 20:00
07:00	News Summary: Saturday Special 20:45
08:00	Sports Round-up 21:00 Newsweek 21:30
09:00	Baker's Half Dozen 22:00 A Dance by
10:00	the Moon 22:45 Classical
11:00	23:00 24 Hours: News Summary 23:30
12:00	Promenade Concert 24:00 News Sum-
13:00	mary: Keep to the Path 01:00 World
14:00	News 01:45 From our own Cor-
15:00	respondent 01:50 News Summary
16:00	02:00 02:30 Sports Round-up 02:30
17:00	World News 02:30 Commentary 02:15
18:00	Letterbox 02:30 Meridian

JUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alia Information Department at the (Queen Alia International Airport, Tel. (08) 53300-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
07:25	London, Larnaca (BA)
08:45	Amman (RJ)
09:30	Kuwait (RJ)
10:30	Doha (RJ)
11:45	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
12:30	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
13:00	Dhahran (RJ)
13:15	Singapore (RJ)
14:05	Riyadh (RJ)
14:15	Chengdu (RJ)
14:30	Muscat, Doha, Bahrain (GF)
14:35	Kuwait (RJ)
15:15	Larnaca (RJ)
15:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
16:30	Cairo (RJ)
17:00	Paris, Damascus (AF)
18:00	Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:25	Isanbul (RJ)
19:55	Rome, Damascus (AZ)
21:00	Frankfurt (LH)
01:25	Baghdad (RJ)
DEPARTURES	
06:20	Frankfurt (LH)
07:30	Amman (RJ)
08:40	Beirut (MEA)
09:10	Larnaca, London (BA)
11:45	Karachi, Tripoli (RJ)
12:30	Brussels, Paris (RJ)
12:45	Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:50	Cairo (MS)
13:00	London (RJ)
13:15	Frankfurt (RJ)
13:30	Vienna, New York (RJ)
13:30	Larnaca (RJ)
13:30	Rome (RJ)
14:00	Istanbul (RJ)
14:15	Bahrain (GF)
14:20	Moscow (RJ)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
15:25	Baghdad (RJ)
16:30	Kuwait (RJ)
20:30	Kuwait (RJ)
20:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:10	Baghdad (RJ)
21:15	Jeddah (RJ)
21:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:15	Cairo (RJ)
MARITIME TRAFFIC	
Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:	

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES	NIGHT DUTY
Amman governorate 891228	AMMAN:
Amman civil defence 198, 199	Dr. Waleed Yaseen 774811
Civil Defence Unit 271293, 273131	Dr. Nidal Marwan 771218
Ambulance (Jawwala) 770733	Najrouk pharmacy 623672
Amman downtown fire brigade 198	Mishal pharmacy 770910
First aid 630341	Khalil pharmacy 661912
Blood bank 778303	Omar pharmacy 778653
Civil Defence rescue 661111	Al A'ida pharmacy 772861
Fire department 622050-3	Al Safa's pharmacy 774054
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777	TAXIS:
Police headquarters 639141	Hassan taxi 721776
Traffic police 896390/1	Khaloud taxi 664888
Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881	Bassam taxi 811057
Municipal water company 171125/6	Ahli taxi 621127
Juana Alia Int. Airport (08) 5330060	Khayyam taxi 641541
	Mashour taxi 656742
	IRRID:
	Dr. Lawrence Bader 243338
	Tubelash pharmacy 273141
HOSPITALS	
Hussein Medical Centre 81381/322	ZARJA:
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6	Dr. Nabil Jajaj (-)
Akileh Maternity, J. Amman 624412	Jerusalem pharmacy (-)
Jahat Amman Maternity 624412	Omar pharmacy (-)
Mahesh, J. Amman 636140	
Palestine, Shamsan 664171/4	Jordan Television 773111/19
Shamsan Hospital 669131	Radio Jordan 774111/19
USJ Hospital 843845/63	Ministry of Tourism 642311
Al-Musader Hospital 667227/8	Traffic complaints 666412
The Islamic, Abadi 666127/37	Police complaints 661178
Al-Ahli, Abadi 6641646	Telephone Information 10
Italian, Al-Mutajreen 777101/3	Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26	Overseas calls 11
Amy, Marka 891611/15	Repair service 17

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.	
Apple (local) 230 / 180	Lemon (yellow) 300 / 240
Apple (American) 280 / 320	Malwow 90 / 50
Banana 300 / 260	Marrow (large) 150 / 100
Banana (Mekman) 250 / 220	Marrow (small) 300 / 250
Beans 300 / 250	Onion (dry) 130 / 90
Cabbage 140 / 100	Onion 300 / 250
Carrot 150 / 100	Parley 100 / 100
Cauliflower 200 / 150	Peas 580 / 500
Cucumber (large) 330 / 280	Peas 580 / 500
Cucumber (small) 100 / 50	Pomegranates 200 / 160
Eggplant (large) 100 / 50	Pears 440 / 400
Eggplant (small) 100 / 50	Pepper (sweet) 220 / 160
Figs (green) 260 / 200	Pepper (hot) 240 / 200
Garlic (without leaves) 330 / 300	Peas 270 / 200
Grapes 250 / 180	Radishes 130 / 80
Guava 400 / 350	Sweet Melon 90 / 60
Lemon 230 / 180	Tomatoes 130 / 80
Lemon (green) 220 / 180	

Jordan Times

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For a meaningful NPT

The NPT has built-in flaws from its very inception in 1968. Whereas the nuclear have-nots, in accordance with U.N. General Assembly Resolution 2028 (Nov. 9, 1965), argued for a non-proliferation treaty that would effectively put a stop to nuclear weapons tests and freeze the production of nuclear weapons and reduce existing nuclear stockpiles, the nuclear have-haves viewed any horizontal proliferation (an increase in the number of states having nuclear weapons) as endangering world security, and this view was incorporated into the treaty itself. This latter view vexed the NPT right at its source, and unfortunately the treaty continues to favour the nuclear have-haves, to the great disadvantage of the nuclear have-nots.

The reasons for this are clear. First, the NPT seeks to impose nuclear celibacy on the nuclear have-nots, without the nuclear have-haves ever having to undertake for themselves nuclear abstinence. Second, the treaty encourages the nuclear have-haves to practise nuclear apartheid, blocking the entry of threshold powers into an all-exclusive nuclear club. And third, it seeks to legitimise the nuclear profligacy of the nuclear have-haves by promoting proliferation of nuclear weapons qualitatively and quantitatively.

It is true the NPT vaguely enjoins the nuclear have-haves to strive for nuclear disarmament. Article VI of the NPT states that "each of the parties to the treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament..." However, the nuclear have-haves, so far, have not seriously tried in good faith to produce a comprehensive treaty that would help reduce stockpiles of nuclear weapons, nor have they been earnest at finding ways to end the nuclear arms race, let alone any movement towards nuclear disarmament. What is even worse is that preparations are well underway to have the nuclear arms race introduced into space.

With such catastrophic and gloomy prospects for mankind, the NPT as an arms control measure must be considered a sham and the third review conference will serve as yet another smokescreen if it passes off the way its predecessors did.

The world, reeling under the icy grip of nuclear tension and fear, cannot afford another non-event in Geneva. That is why the criticism levelled at the conference by Third World countries against nuclear powers should be taken seriously and not condemned to the scrapheap of history. The least we could do for the survival of the NPT is not to deprive it of all meaningful significance but to develop its strength to the point where it can truly serve humanity and the world at large.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: The king's generosity

JORDANIANS along with Arab and Muslim peoples around the globe celebrated Eid Al Adha (feast of the sacrifice) this week, and the feast surely brought happiness to the members of the Jordanian family. But King Hussein's generous act on the eve of the feast enabled this family to have a double rejoicing.

The king has passed directives to the government to reduce interest on loans granted to people wishing to build homes in rural regions, donated JD 100,000 to charitable societies and exempted town councils from paying the cost of lighting streets and public places.

King Hussein's generous act displayed his keenness on safeguarding the interests of his subjects and his concern over their well-being. It also demonstrated the strong relationship of amity, affection and cohesion between the ruler and his people and the ruler's commitment to serve this nation.

Most Jordanians, who have been raised in rural regions of this country, realise that the king's generous offer will contribute to the development and progress of towns and villages and help encourage people to remain in their land instead of moving to the already congested cities.

The king has set a good example of generosity and sacrifice for his people which ought to display its cooperation and increase its efforts in production and diligent work to show gratitude and appreciation of the monarch's noble deeds.

Al Dustour: What means Al Adha?

THE ARAB AND Islamic Worlds Monday celebrated 'Eid Al Adha (the feast of sacrifice) at the end of this year's pilgrimage to the holy places in Mecca and Medina.

This feast finds the Arab and Muslim people threatened by all sorts of danger, but are in need of the will to offer sacrifice and genuine efforts to safeguard their identity and protect their future generations.

This weakness that characterises the Arabs and Muslims can be overcome by the will to offer sacrifice which is an inspiration from this feast and they are in need of unity and relentless work to defend their religion, their identity and their future.

The past five years carried great suffering for the Arabs and Muslims in Palestine and especially in the holy city of Jerusalem where the enemy practices all sorts of arbitrary measures against our steadfast people. The past five years witnessed a conflict between two Muslim neighbours: Iran and Iraq, a war that has contributed to further weakness in Muslim ranks.

This conflict should prompt all faithful Muslims to pressure Iran into halting all war activity and end all that might cause any rift among Muslim peoples.

Sawt Al Shaab: Muslims have a duty

ON THE EVE of Eid Al Adha nearly a million Muslim pilgrims stood on Jabal Arafat near Mecca praying to God and performing their religious rites. These pilgrims are unified in religion under the banner of Islam, and in this holy occasion they all felt nearer to God, filled with piety and faith and pure hearts.

Surely many of them prayed to God to safeguard the unity of the Muslim people and protect their interests and their future generations. Indeed, it was the most exemplary site for Muslims to meet and add to unify their ranks before God and it was an occasion for all Muslims to make a determination to eliminate their differences and disputes and reach a true reconciliation before God.

The Islamic religion is at present exposed to many threats and challenges, and the Muslim people are weak and in dire need for unity and strength to face the dangers. On this occasion the Muslim people should pledge before God to unify their ranks and end their differences in order to protect themselves and to prepare for the day when they liberate their holy lands and free their kinsmen from Zionist occupation.

Muslim people have a duty to perform towards their holy places, not only in Mecca but also in Jerusalem and other parts of the occupied territory.

The Fertile Crescent: A new Alawi perspective

By Shaker Abu Nasser

MANY JORDANIANS know the special relationship which used to tie President Assad of Syria with the two Malkis: Adnan and Riad. It was in the late fifties and early sixties when President Assad nurtured the ideology of "Al-Jawmyoun Al-Souroun" and the ideas of the founder of that party, Dr. George Saadeh. According to Saadeh's concepts, there should be a Damascus hegemony all over all of Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Palestine which form the fertile Arab Crescent, with Cyprus as the beloved star of that crescent. When the exigencies of the typical Shi'ite "tuqia" (cover up) forced Assad to join Al Baath Party, he did it as a salvation strategy to help hundreds of Nusairi Alawis to take over key posts in the army. But he was very faithful to his old affiliations. One of the clever ploys he used was the introduction of the "Military Retirement Compensation Programme" according to which a tempting sum of money was offered to retiring officers to help them start a new civilian life. This programme induced many officers to request retirement. Accordingly the Alawi officers remained as the backbone of the army. Those officers are the ones helping President Assad now to implement his "Greater Syria" designs in the name of "Al-Baath" rather than "Al-Jawmyoun Al-Souroun". It is within this context that we can find the proper explanation why Assad has been pursuing "Greater Syria" or the Fertile Crescent designs through special links he

developed with radicals.

Six weeks after a shaky truce halted Beirut's "war of the camps" between Shi'ite forces and Palestinian refugees during the holy month of Ramadan, Syrian tank transporters rolled onto a lot near Beirut airport to deliver 42 of a reported consignment of 50 Soviet-built T-54 tanks to Nabih Berri's Amal militiamen.

The delivery, made to "assist in carrying out security measures," again highlighted the Syrian President's efforts to envelop the region within "Greater Syria." To achieve this master plan, say Damascus watchers, Assad is manipulating links forged with Lebanon's radical Shi'ite factions, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini and Libya's Muammar Qadhafi.

In Lebanon, Assad is promoting a "pax Syriana," ostensibly instituted through political reconciliation and the disarmament of militia factions. But Syria's dealings with Berri's Amal belie Assad's stated intention to "close the Lebanon file."

Berri, on Assad's orders, is converting his militia into a 3,000-man army. According to Beirut reports, 1,000 Amal men were transferred from Beirut's suburbs and the Beqaa Valley and taken to intensive military training in Syria during mid-July.

When the T-54s arrived, spokesmen for Berri claimed they were destined for the Lebanese army's Shi'ite 6th brigade, already equipped with Western-made tanks. But Amal crews — evidently tra-

ined to handle tanks — headed for south Beirut, where unidentified trucks had recently delivered ammunition to several Amal warehouses. Most observers believe the armour consignment was designed to pressure PLO Chief Yasser Arafat before the Casablanca summit by further threatening Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. During Berri's assaults, apparently ordered by Assad in a secret meeting on May 18 with Amal chiefs, Syrian forces in the Beqaa barred Damascus-backed Palestinian factions from infiltrating Beirut to relieve the siege. But when Amal supported by 6th brigade armour, met stiff resistance at Burj Al Barajneh refugee camp, Assad's Lebanon proconsul, Brig.-Gen. Ghazi Kana'an, permitted Shi'ite Hezbollah gunmen in the Beqaa to reinforce Amal.

The Syrian president's direct support for Lebanon's radical Shi'ite factions dates from 1982, when Hussein Musawi broke with Berri and established Islamic Amal under Syrian protection in the Beqaa. Since then, Syrian Air Force intelligence chief, Gen. Muhammad Al Khoulil, has built a support system for Shi'ite fighters where Damascus provides target maps, weapons and training at camps reportedly operated by officers of Rif'at Assad's forces.

In a May 4 speech to Syrian students, Assad professed a life-long devotion to "martyrdom." Political analysts, however, believe Assad's interest is rooted in suicidal terrorism's cost-effectiveness as a

weapon of war and in an old political debt to Khomeini — the world's foremost practitioner of suicidal warfare and terrorism. In 1973, Khomeini organised the legitimisation of Syria's Alawi sect under Shi'ite Islam, defusing a Sunni challenge to Assad's leadership.

While Syria's war support for Iran is coloured by Assad's enmity towards Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Iraq's projected inclusion in greater Syria, Damascus is repaying Khomeini's favour with invaluable aid to Iran's forces. Syria, say diplomats, purchases Western arms for clandestine resupply to Iran. In early 1985, when Libya shipped Soviet-made Scud-BS to Iran, Syrian experts reportedly set up the missiles on Iran's central front opposite Baghdad.

Last October, the Syrian president authorised the Islamic Revolutionary Guards (IRG) to establish a military camp in western Syria, with a view to attacking Kirkuk, in Iraq. Moreover, there are reports that Syria may have supplied Iran with mustard gas.

Although Assad allows no Islamic fundamentalism in Syria, he permits Khomeini to export fanaticism to Lebanon to foster political destabilisation. Weekly, an Iranian Air Force flight arrives at a remote end of Damascus airport carrying personnel and military supplies destined for the Beqaa. Iranian convoys to Lebanon pass free of inspection over Syria's military highway.

In 1983, press sources indicated that Assad's support for Iran was financed by Assad's calculated manipulation of these radicals primarily targets Jordan, political experts agree. It is no accident that both Ali Banna's "Black September" and the Iran-sponsored "Islamic Jihad" claimed responsibility for the assassination of the Jordanian diplomat, Ziad Sati, in Turkey in July. The "Jihad" caller's flawless Turkish is widely attributed to Iran's terrorist recruiting campaign, launched among Turkish fundamentalists this February.

Morever, some political analysts, citing the rapprochement between Libya and some Palestinian radicals, believe the Shi'ite Ramadan offensive against Palestinians in Lebanon may have been launched by Assad solely to drive a wedge into the Jordan-PLO peace initiative. If so, the move took a grim toll: 635 people slaughtered, 2,500 others wounded and 90 per cent of refugee housing destroyed or damaged.

Subsequently, according to West European press reports, Col. Qadhafi appointed his cousin and intelligence deputy Sa'id Qadhafi Al Dam as Libya's representative to the terrorist alliance. Qadhafi Al Dam was linked to Syrian intelligence in early 1984, when he met in Switzerland with an Assad operative to coordinate Qadhafi's hit-squad campaign against Libyan exiles.

Assad, whose \$3.3 billion military budget is crippling Syria's economy, is evidently tapping Qadhafi's reserves for terrorism, estimated at \$600 million annually. Since Syria-based Sabri Al-Banna (Abu Nidal) met with Qadhafi last November, "Abu Nidal" attacks may have been financed

by Libya through the Beqaa-based "Palestinian Arab Revolutionary Committees" that pay new recruits \$165 monthly. In July, Qadhafi transferred \$1 million to Palestinian radicals, ostensibly to rebuild the Beirut refugee camp. The terrorist compact also depends on Qadhafi's depot of Soviet-made weapons. Last December, Libya sent a freighter loaded with arms to Latakia for Syrian distribution to radicals. Currently, Libyan weapons are reportedly entering Lebanon through the Druze-controlled port of Khald.

The trouble unleashed by Assad's calculated manipulation of these radicals primarily targets Jordan, political experts agree. It is no accident that both Ali Banna's "Black September" and the Iran-sponsored "Islamic Jihad" claimed responsibility for the assassination of the Jordanian diplomat, Ziad Sati, in Turkey in July. The "Jihad" caller's flawless Turkish is widely attributed to Iran's terrorist recruiting campaign, launched among Turkish fundamentalists this February.

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A code of conduct for Palestinian unity

By Ali Jarbawi and Jamal R. Nassar

SINCE THE SIX-DAY WAR of June 1967 Palestinian national unity has been seen as a necessary prerequisite for the achievement of Palestinian goals and aspirations. Consequently, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) became the framework within which national unity was achieved. This unity, which has been revolved around the idea of consensus among the various Palestinian command groups on declared decisions, became a *de facto* notion which was universally accepted. To deviate from the accepted declared decisions meant deviation from the principle of working for the national goals.

Today, however, internal differences are threatening the PLO with secession. There were major differences over the convening of the 17th Palestine National Council session; and there have been clashes in the occupied territories between supporters and opponents of the meeting, with each side perceiving the other to have violated the principle of national unity. The current situation is not acceptable to either side in the Palestinian national movement. The 17th PNC meeting in Amman did not end the dispute. No concerned Palestinian can be pleased with this situation of dispute and disagreements. First, it could lead to a total split within the PLO at both the tactical and strategic levels. Second, it could cause an internal struggle that will divert Palestinian resources from fighting their external enemies. Third, internal division at the national level could jeopardise many of the Palestinian institutions in the occupied territories and deprive the Palestinian people of many of the necessary services that these institutions provide.

Already, serious divisions have occurred in the ranks of the general unions of Palestinian workers, teachers, women and writers and journalists. This could have a negative influence, upon the representative character of the PLO and put into question its very legitimacy. Such a situation will only benefit Israel as it continues its process of Judaisation of the occupied lands. This situation will also open the way for others to interfere in the internal affairs of the Palestinians.

It is the contention of the authors that the notion of national unity as it was understood and practised among the various Palestinian factions has led to the current problems facing the PLO, and they suggest a new understanding for national unity.

The Idea of National Unity: 1967-1974

The period immediately after the 1967 war witnessed an emphasis on national unity under the banner of the PLO.

All Palestinian command groups began to join the PLO and hope was raised among the Palestinian people and Arabs in general. But the Palestinian people were so divided and separated with differing loyalties to various Arab governments that the PLO's initial task had to be to forge unity under its leadership. Such a unity, it was argued, would give the PLO a legitimate representative role that could transform the Palestinians from helpless refugees into a people with recognised national rights.

At the Arab level, prior to 1967, the West Bank was part of Jordan while the Gaza Strip was controlled by Egypt. Therefore, after Israel occupied these territories leaving the Palestinians without political representation apart from Jordan and Egypt, the PLO had gained an Arab consensus that it represented the Palestinian people. At the 1974 Rabat Arab summit conference all Arab leaders resolved that the PLO was the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. At the international level, the global community viewed the Palestinian people as refugees and perceived the Middle East conflict to be over borders between existing independent states and not over the rights of a people who had lost their homeland, as was reflected in U.N. Security Council resolution 242 of 1967. Henceforth, the PLO attempted to change this perception by seeking international recognition of Palestinian national rights as well as of its role as the representative of the Palestinian people. By the time Mr. Arafat attended the U.N. General Assembly meeting in 1974, the world community had largely accepted these conclusions.

The Palestinian, Arab and international situation, then, required Palestinian groups within the PLO to present a cohesive and unified position on all declared decisions in order to achieve that initial objective of recognition. As the political and armed branches in the movement united, both suffered the loss of a certain amount of freedom of action and, as a result, both became less dynamic. Ironically, after the achievement of recognition in 1974, no serious evaluation of the requirements of the new stage took place and the PLO continued to stress national unity as an objective. A consensus among the various resistance groups was still required for decision-making. This meant that any one group was able to obstruct decision-making.

National Unity: 1974-1984

While 1974 ushered in a new era of the PLO, the practice of

consensus in decision-making limited both the diplomatic and military branches of the organisation. During this era, new international initiatives were taken to find a diplomatic solution to the Palestinian problem. In response to such initiatives, Palestinian armed action was to suffer negatively. Even PLO diplomatic action suffered because political conditions changed dramatically during this period while the PLO decision-making process did not. If one is to begin with the widely accepted premise that the PLO cannot hope to achieve its objectives independently of other regional powers, then that premise necessitates that the PLO interact with its political environment. This political environment has changed drastically since 1974.

At the Israeli level, these changes made the achievement of PLO objectives more difficult. First, Israel continued to occupy the West Bank and Gaza and to carry out a process of Judaisation of these lands. By 1984, more than 40 per cent of the occupied territories had been confiscated and 174 Jewish settlements created. Moreover, after the Likud came to power more and more Palestinians were expelled. In addition, Israel formally annexed Jerusalem and declared the city as its "eternal capital". All these actions made even the minimal achievement of Palestinian goals more difficult. The Palestinian environment has also undergone serious changes. While Palestinians everywhere reached a consensus on the minimal conditions for peace and the achievement of Palestinian national rights, they differed on the means. Most of those living under occupation hope for a diplomatic solution to end their ordeal; those living outside the occupied territories are in less of a hurry to reach a settlement. Still others do not even approve of the consensus on the minimal requirements for peace, particularly those who were made refugees in 1948 and know that a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza would not regain for them their lost homes and lands.

Then there are the special relationships that tie certain Palestinian communities to specific Arab regimes. Palestinians of the West Bank have a historic and rather close relationship with Jordan and many Palestinians living in Jordan advocate closer ties to the Kingdom. In fact, such ties were strengthened between 1974 and 1984 by the re-opening of the Jordanian parliament and the holding of the Palestine National Council meeting in Amman. There are also the Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip who have close ties to Egypt and Palestinians in Syria with ties to its regime. Such relationships make the task of the PLO even more dif-

icult, as Arab countries with large Palestinian communities can take the diplomatic initiative away from the PLO should the PLO reject or fail to react to peace initiatives and plans which these Arab states favour. There is also the Arab dimension to the Palestinian-Israeli confrontation. At this level, the Palestinians face a dilemma: if they want to develop themselves into a viable force capable of achieving its goals they must have the ability to act independently from the Arab regimes; yet in order to retain and strengthen their independence, they must deal with the Arab regimes and play a balancing act between them. If they refuse to deal with the regimes, they jeopardise their development, and in the end, their independence, if not their very existence.



From the beginning, a consensus emerged within the PLO that Palestinians should not get entangled in the Arab "cold war". Thus, the doctrine of non-interference was adopted as the strategy for the organisation; PLO leaders felt that they had enough internal problems, yet given Arab rivalries and shifting alliances, as well as differing Arab perceptions of a solution to the Palestine problem, the PLO found itself entangled in inter-Arab affairs. This was due, in part, to PLO insistence on Palestinian national unity. To hope for Arab consensus on a solution to the Palestinian problem in the near future seems to be unrealistic, given the nature of Arab differences today. Even the consensus that emerged at the Fez conference is unrealistic in that some Arab countries soon began to acquiesce in new initiatives.

To sum up, these dimensions to the Palestinian struggle require the PLO to act with freedom and dynamism if it accepts the premise that there can be no solution without these forces. National unity, as it has been practised, deprived the PLO of such freedom and dynamism; consequently, it became a prisoner of its own insistence on consensus.

National Unity: 1985 and beyond

National unity helped the PLO to gain recognition during

the early stage of its development. Changes, however, were required after this recognition was achieved. The PLO's continued dependence on consensus in decision-making led eventually to divisions within its ranks. Consequently, the next stage for PLO development requires changes in Palestinian understanding of national unity. Today, it seems that the PLO is condemned to have either unanimity without strategy, or strategy without unanimity. The era of the balance of indecision should come to an end. Palestinian factions should realise that consensus on tactics is not as necessary as a consensus on strategy. Therefore, the notion of national unity on tactics and strategy should be abandoned as it deprives the PLO of its freedom and dynamism.

The political-diplomatic struggle, which is perceived to be moderate, has to be left to develop and take its course, but it should be accepted that there is opposition to it. Such a tactic should allow the PLO to achieve whatever gains are possible along such avenues. There are many, even among the Palestinians, who are unhappy with the PLO's constant policy of rejection; some do feel that a political solution is possible. Therefore, the PLO must attempt to respond to peace initiatives in ways that do not give it a rejectionist look. Similarly, armed struggle, even though it is perceived to be extremist, must develop and take its course with the recognition that there is opposition to it. The advocates of armed struggle within the PLO could be important because they safeguard Palestinian rights in the case of failure at the political-diplomatic level. Should flexibility at the political level lead to unacceptable compromise of Palestinian national rights, the extremists could always argue that they had never consented to such compromises.

To attempt to limit the PLO to total consensus is self-defeating and counter-productive to Palestinian interests. All avenues should be explored to find a meaningful formula for both trends to co-exist within the PLO. Dialogue should always aim at finding agreed goals, but not tactics. The accepted strategic goal then should become the "Red Line" that no faction should cross. Means and tactics, on the other hand, need not have a consensus. Let each faction determine its own means so long as there is agreement on the strategic goal. This will provide the PLO with the flexibility of movement at both the political and military levels.

Other revolutionary movements have, in the past, operated in accordance with the above premises rather than on consensus. The Algerian revolution, for example, had its own extremists and moderates. Farhat Abbas ran a political office and a government-in-exile, while Ben Bella and Boumedienne ran an effective armed struggle. Their agreement on the strategic goal of liberation and the use of both diplomatic and armed tactics led to their eventual success. Consensus was never a guiding principle of the Algerian revolution.

Current developments within the PLO are dangerous in that they threaten the organisation with the loss of legitimacy, its achievements and even its very existence. The PLO cannot afford the luxury of official divisions and splits. Palestinian factions should observe a code of conduct compatible with the rules and regulations of the PLO, but the PLO must continue to provide the forum for a continuous dialogue. This dialogue should aim at achieving an acceptable framework for the strategic objectives of the Palestinians. Differences should not lead to divisions. Each group needs to struggle in accordance with its own capabilities, means and beliefs. The most important thing is that no group crosses the agreed Red Line. This Red Line represents the accepted strategic goal of the Palestinians.

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Costs of large dams can outweigh their benefits

The Social and Environmental Effects of Large Dams Vol. I "The Overview" By Edward Goldsmith and Nicholas Hildyard Published by Cornwall - U.K.

Far from ensuring progress in the global battle against hunger and poverty, large dams can have social and environmental costs which outweigh their benefits. A new report argues that donor agencies should immediately cut off funds for all new superdams. Edward Goldsmith and Nicholas Hildyard are co-editors of "The Ecologist" magazine, and have written books and articles on environmental issues. Following is their review of their "Overview".

LONDON — Worldwide there are 185 large dams either planned or under construction. Are they, as India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru described them, "temples of progress"? Or are they so damaging that the funds for them should be cut off immediately?

The accepted view is that dams supply cheap energy and increase food production through irrigation, and are indispensable in the global battle against starvation. But dams also wreak social and ecological havoc. Many people now believe that the damage they do outweighs the benefits they bring.

People are uprooted, often forcibly, to make way for dam projects, and resettlement is rarely successful. China's Three Gorges Dam scheme alone will displace 1.4 million people. Pushed onto inferior land with inadequate compensation, peasants frequently end up living in shanty towns, unemployed, underfed and socially alienated.

Vast areas of land, much of it fertile, have been lost to reservoirs. Lake Nasser — the reservoir behind Egypt's Aswan High Dam — flooded 400,000 hectares (990,000 acres), while an area the size of Lebanon was lost to Lake Volta in Ghana.

Dam projects threaten the survival of many endangered species. Simultaneously they create new breeding grounds for other species, flies and mosquitoes, which spread waterborne diseases. Worldwide, 200 million people suffer from the snail-borne disease schistosomiasis — and water projects are largely held responsible. Dams have also increased the incidence of malaria.

Dam failures with loss of life and property are common. The collapse of the 95 metre (312 feet) Teton Dam in Wyoming, U.S.A., caused over \$1 billion worth of damage in 1976. Experts point out that the science of large dams is still only imperfectly understood.

The raising and lowering of artificial lakes behind dams has tri-

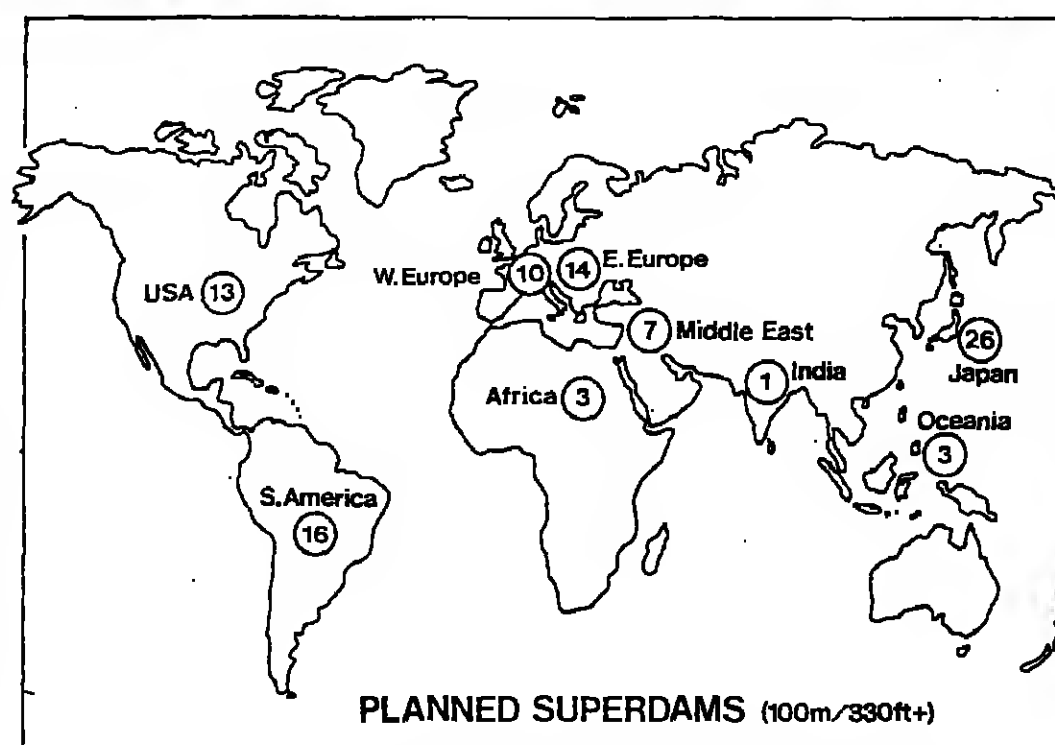
ggered serious earthquakes. One at Koyun in India killed 2,000 people in 1976. Such earthquakes have occurred in areas with no previously recorded seismic activity.

In hot dry areas, evaporation from reservoirs can cause staggering water losses. Lake Nasser in Egypt annually loses enough water to irrigate 800,000 hectares (two million acres) of farmland. In some cases the evaporation rate actually exceeds the rate of water in-flow from reservoir storage.

One rationale for building large dams is that they help control flooding, but it is arguable that they have increased flood damage. The floods that ravaged California in 1983 resulted from public pressure — by the tourist industry, farmers and hydro-electric authorities — to keep reservoirs along the Colorado River full. When the Rocky Mountain spring run-off could not be contained, officials had to admit that they were releasing "a controlled disaster" on the people downstream.

Fisheries set up in the lakes of large dams have generally enjoyed short-lived success. The loss of fish in the river basin as a whole can result in a net loss despite the new fisheries.

On the plus side, irrigation can produce unrivalled crop yields. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) argues that unless the world's present irrigated area of 200 million hectares



(494 million acres) is expanded by at least 20 per cent by the turn of the century, starvation will be widespread. But is large-scale, dam-fed, perennial irrigation the answer?

The cost of these projects is now so high — up to \$10,000 per hectare (\$4,000 per acre) — that foreign-exchange earning export crops must be substituted for staple food crops to pay construction costs. Local people are left hungrier than before.

Perennial irrigation inevitably raises the water table. As water evaporates from the surface it leaves its salts behind, poisoning the soil. Some 50-80 per cent of the world's irrigated land is now a

salt-encrusted desert. Irrigation currently ruins as much land as it brings into production.

Drainage schemes which can carry away the excess salt are expensive (up to \$1,000 per hectare, or \$400 per acre) and only succeed in flushing the problem downstream. Even in California's prosperous San Joaquin Valley only 40 per cent of farmers have adequate drainage. Farmers may have to abandon once productive land in the lower reaches of the Murray River Valley in Australia because of salt poisoning.

A U.S. congressional study found that the proponents of superdams overstated the expected monetary gains from flood con-

trol, irrigation, electricity generation and recreation, while underestimating total costs. Such distortions by those who stand to gain from consulting and construction contracts has influenced Third World governments in favour of these projects.

But rendering vast areas of farmland infertile cannot possibly help to solve the greatest of human crises: Hunger. So great is the damage done by superdams that the donor governments, development banks and aid agencies whose financial help makes them possible should cut off funds for them without delay — before any more land and lives are lost — Earthscan feature.

Polish punks — a new generation of rebels

By Guy Dinmore
Reuters

JAROCIN, Poland — A safety-pin through his ear, hair dyed and in spikes, he wore a badge with the motto "anarchy and peace" and a black leather jacket inscribed "no future".

The punk, one of a new generation of young Polish rebels, was hanging around among 20,000 youths camping in this small country town at Poland's top annual rock music festival.

"In the West punk is a fashion hut with its 'a movement', he said, using Chondor as his pseudonym.

"We're not interested in politics, not interested in the future, our attitude is aggressive, towards everything that's against us".

Chondor, and his companions Shiva, Giletta and Perching, described a brotherhood among punks, which in the west, rejects everything around them.

For some, rejection also means glue sniffing, smoking Marijuana and injecting a bottled down mish of poppy plants.

Despite their fearsome appearance, the punks were eager to talk to foreign journalists and have pictures taken of themselves "pogo" dancing, jumping up and down hurling dust in the air.

Walter Chelstowski, director of the five-day festival which ended last Saturday, said the 500 in 700 punks there were generally well behaved.

Polish punks needed a strong character not to conform to society's norms of dress and behaviour but in Jarocin they felt safe from harassment, he added.

Their love of anarchy was well known but Chelstowski said he doubted that leaflets signed by a group calling itself "alternative society movement" had been distributed by punks.

The leaflets called for rejection of military conscription in Poland and were scattered by a few youths sprinting among the crowd lounging about in the open-air stadium.

Chelstowski said he was perturbed by the propaganda. "We like to treat Jarocin as a non-political festival, only as an art festival".

Earlier this month, scores of solidarity banners were displayed among 200,000 people celebrating the assumption of the Virgin Mary in Czesochowa, southern Poland, but here there was no outward sign of the banned trade union.

"People here know we are walking along a very thin line. If this festival is to survive it must avoid politics," Chelstowski said.

Alcohol was banned in the town as part of the organisers' attempts to avoid trouble.

"Poland is looking for another Chopin among rock musicians."

We have to find this Chopin of the 20th century," he added, describing Polish punk bands as among the best in the world.

Dominant themes among the 150 bands playing at the festival were: Loneliness, anti-Fascism, and anti-abortion.

One musician, who asked not to be named, said "Polish rock is about frustration and a feeling of being alone. No-one can help them, no future. A third of the lyrics are about war, we are very afraid."

"We are singing that we don't like socialism and we hate capitalism. We are trying to find a third way but don't know what it is."

Official censors cut out about 10 songs. Many of those that remained expressed heartfelt discontent.

One group, "Paranoya", sang:

"I don't want to be a soldier, I don't want a gun, I don't want any authority, I don't want to be a murderer. Why do I need authority? I want to live normally. I don't want to be a murderer of you innocent people."

Chelstowski, heard, 34 years old and dressed in jeans and T-shirt, said he was moved by teenagers, singing about the horrors of the last war and Poland's destruction by the Nazis.

The musician added "at state military festivals people are paid to write such lyrics. Here they do it from the depths of their soul, for free."

"Ivo Partizan" sang, partly in German, of the Auschwitz death camp and his doctor-executioner Josee Mengele.

"All the dead are quiet, all the living cry. The women and children wait. Criminal Mengele, deathhead Mengele."

"Do you remember their eyes, mouths, hands? I will not let you forget, Josee Mengele, Josee Mengele."

The festival has made this picturesque western town famous among Poland's youth.

Jarocin's inhabitants seem used to the 16-year-old festival, allowing tents to be pitched in their gardens and offering water to passers-by.

Priests gave out free food and the punks, who described themselves as religious, were frequent church visitors.

Police were noticeably fewer than at Western rock festivals and some were clearly enjoying the performances.

Much of the much can only be heard live or from private recordings as most of the bands are amateur and state radio sticks to conservative "pop", a dirty world for Jarocin fans.

Deserted former capital recalls bloody past of Armenians

By Paul Bolding
Reuters

ANI, Turkey — The few walls and towers of this deserted former Armenian royal capital recall the bloody past of a people, some of whose descendants fight on.

Soldiers accompany visitors and photography is banned at the vast site on a high plateau east of the town of Kars and beside the Arpa River, which forms the Turkish-Soviet border.

Apart from the high walls, a dozen or so ruined churches and a fortress, there is little left of what was once a city of 100,000 people.

Frescoes survive in several churches, the most impressive being the vast, square cathedral completed by King Gagik I and Juven Katramide in 1001 A.D.

Unlike Greco-Roman, Islamic and Byzantine sites in Turkey, nothing is done to preserve the remains of Ani, whose neglect is a reminder of the sensitivity of the

Armenian issue.

A total of 41 Turks, mostly diplomats, have been killed since 1973 by Armenian groups seeking revenge for the deaths of Armenians in Turkey during World War I.

The Armenians have been in a diaspora since then, with only some 50,000 surviving in Turkey, mostly in Istanbul, where the Armenian Orthodox Patriarchate disassociates itself from the activities of the guerrillas.

The view that Armenians were massacred in 1915-16 was restated this month in a report to the United Nations Human Rights Sub-Committee in Geneva by a British expert who said a million or more died.

Rejecting this view, Turkish U.N. delegate Ergun Yavuzalp acknowledged "uncontrollable brutalities and excesses" but said Turkey acted legitimately against Armenians cooperating with Russia, its enemy at

the time.

Some Armenian groups speak of 1.5 million deaths. But Turkey, which repeatedly has denied any massacre, says perhaps 300,000 died because of general strife in the area, or while being transported elsewhere.

The Turkish view is stated in dozens of books and pamphlets distributed by the authorities which claim that documents supporting massacre allegations are forgeries.

Ani reached a high-point in the 10th Century, when Bagratid Dynasty kings moved their capital there from Kars. Its decline began with an earthquake in 1319 and the latest inscription, except for some early 20th Century graffiti, is dated 1348.

Armenians allied themselves with the Russians who captured Kars in 1877, and most of them left in 1920 when Turkish nationalists retook the area.

In 1914, however, there were

still 1.3 million Armenians in the Ottoman Empire, according to an official census. Other estimates go up to 2.5 million.

An independent Armenia was set up in 1918 in what was to become Soviet territory and claimed parts of eastern Turkey. But it collapsed in 1921 when the Red Army took Yerevan, still the capital of Soviet Armenia.

One Armenian settlement was at the Turkish town of Digor, south of Kars and near the Soviet border, where a ruined 14th Century Armenian Church stands.

Today, the word "Armenian" is virtually synonymous with "terrorist" to many Turks because of the activities of young Armenian guerrillas.

The recent naming by President Reagan of California Governor George Deukmejian to the "Holocaust Memorial Council", a body commemorating the Nazi holocaust, needed no further explanation by newspapers reporting

Turkish disquiet — the name has the "lan" ending characteristic of Armenian names.

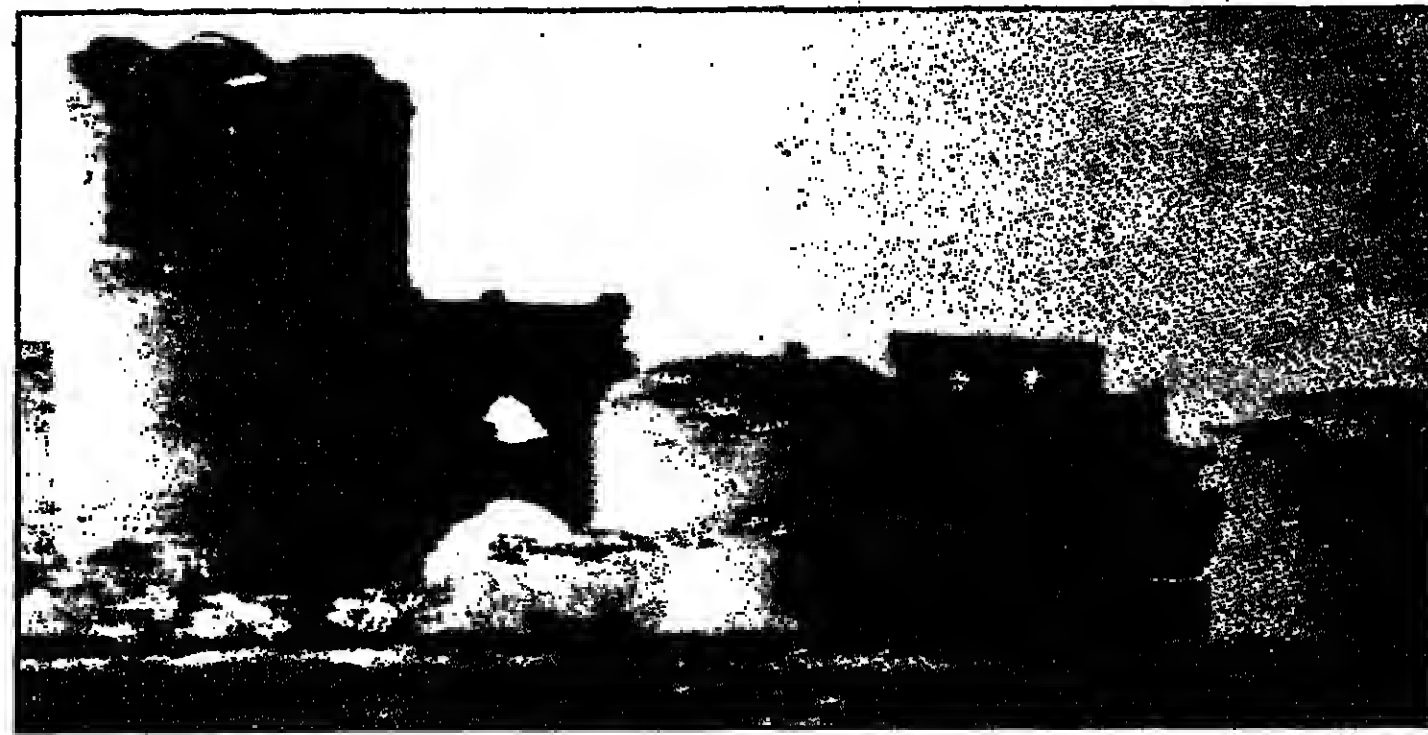
Turkish embassies are among the most heavily fortified anywhere because of attacks such as that of last March on the mission in Ottawa, Canada, in which a security guard was killed and Ambassador Coskun Kirca was badly injured.

Turkey provided two leading academics to testify in February at the Paris trial of three Armenians later convicted for the July 1983

bombing of the Turkish Airlines desk at Orly Airport, in which eight people were killed.

One of the academics, Turkaya Atav told Reuters: "They have no claim to any Turkish territory, not least because the Armenians were never a majority in any of the areas where they lived anyway."

"If they want to live in an Armenian state, there is already one — in the Soviet Union," he added, referring to the Soviet Republic of Armenia.



The ruins of the former Armenian capital, Ani, still stand beside the Arpa River, on the Turkish-Soviet border (file photo)



The 10th Century Church of St. Grigor Aboughamrents, one of the thousand and one churches in Ani, stands in ruins on the edge of a deep gorge (file photo)

Nepal: Will Shangrila survive?

Tourism in Nepal is increasing and already exceeds the capacity of the natural environment to sustain it. There is a growing backlash against visitors, whose presence is depriving Nepalese villagers of fuelwood and grazing land. Greta Rana is a conservationist who recently helped to organise an international workshop on the management of national parks and protected areas in the Hindu-Kush Himalaya.

KATHMANDU — Nepal's honeymoon with tourists is over. Saturated with visitors, the country's traditional hospitality is growing thin, as are its forests and soil.

Over 150,000 guests arrived in Nepal last year, to enjoy the scenic beauty of one of the world's most fragile landscapes. Desperate for tourist dollars, the country now faces a trade-off between acquiring foreign exchange and accelerated natural destruction.

Nepal's high rate of population growth (this year nearly half a million children will be born), is already stretching the ecological limits in some areas. Destruction of forests in the foothills and overgrazing on the Terai plain has been increasing for some time. But tourists, often unwittingly, do more damage in a shorter time than the locals.

The famed Everest region,

which originally supported a few hundred Sherpas, now plays host to 5,000 tourists per year. Sargamatha National Park authorities insist that tourists carry their own fuel on entering the park, because these once richly forested slopes have been stripped of trees.

Tourists, wishing to see the remotest and most environmentally precarious regions, and able to pay to do so, are intensifying human demands — for firewood, water, food, transport accommodation and rubbish disposal — on fragile upland areas which cannot support such activities.

Deforestation and population growth have made fuelwood and green fodder scarce commodities in Nepal, ones which Nepalese women spend several hours a day gathering. Some 40 per cent of

Nepalese people earn less than \$60 per year; but the average European or North American visitor can afford to spend this amount on fuelwood in a week.

In order to safeguard the country's natural heritage, the Nepalese government has created a number of national parks and wildlife reserves. Some of these have had an adverse effect on the people who live near them.

Deprived of the resources within the park, primarily fuelwood and grazing land, they are forced to look further afield. They may end up competing with affluent tourists for essential commodities, wondering exactly for whom nature is being conserved.

Nepalese peasants must have grazing land for their cattle, which supply milk and also dung for burning or for fertiliser. Tigers, rhinos, leopards, bears and other wild creatures may be beautiful, but are of no immediate use to them.

For the government, however, wildlife has an economic value, and must be protected because it is part of the country's intrinsic attraction for tourists.

Resentment flares when, for example, villagers observe that tourist agencies are allowed to graze domesticated elephants on park property; or, again, when villagers are prevented from hunting protected wild animals which have carried off their livestock or have damaged crops. They perceive that they are deprived of very real assets for the sake of nature conservation, with rich tourists being the only beneficiaries of what is conserved.

It is not just Nepal is facing these issues. All of the countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, China, India, Pakistan) of the Hindu-Kush Himalaya are confronted by these problems to a greater or lesser degree. Every country in the region has either an acute or a potentially serious firewood problem. Each is threatened by hillside erosion, rapid population growth, floods and diminishing wildlife and genetic resources.

Conservation groups in the region have recognised that resource policies must be co-ordinated among the countries if impending



crises are to be averted. River control, watershed management, use of scarce land, soil erosion, energy needs and deforestation will all have to be considered. An integrated international environmental plan for the region is needed if it is to be preserved for the 40 million inhabitants of the Hindu-Kush region and their descendants.

Non-governmental organisations in the Hindu-Kush countries have already come together to form the International Centre for Integrated Mountain

Development. Whether the eight governments of the region will follow suit remains an open question.

Meanwhile, Kathmandu itself is rapidly becoming a conference centre. Hardly a month goes by that does not see colourful banners stretched across the main thoroughfare welcoming delegates to yet another meeting. Ironically, many of these visitors come to discuss the very problem — the environmental destruction of the Hindu-Kush mountain region — which their presence tends to exacerbate — Earthscan feature.

Prisoner-for-hire — Singapore's latest rehabilitation plan

By Marilyn Odchimar
Reuters

SINGAPORE — Singapore plans to launch a prisoners-for-hire scheme in an innovative rehabilitation programme, but the idea has raised memories of an experiment more than 20 years ago which collapsed in rioting and murder.

The new plan gives selected convicts a chance to taste normal life while serving their jail terms and has the bonus of helping ease the island's tight labour market.

Officials say it is very different from a project introduced in 1963 on an uninhabited Singapore island called Pulau Senang (island of ease) where hard-core convicts were allowed to build their own homes and roam freely.

The short-lived scheme ended in tragedy when convicts killed three unarmed prison officials in an orgy of rioting. The prisoners, who resented being told to do extra work, burned down all the buildings on the island.

"This present idea is absolutely different from Pulau Senang which had criminals and gangsters. We are talking of drags who are fine defaulters," said Bacy Lian Peck, head of a state-run body involved in rehabilitation work.

Government officials said the new day-release scheme will be voluntary. Short-term prisoners, including fine defaulters, and long-term convicts who opt to serve their last 12 months in the scheme, are eligible.

"During this period, when the convicted prisoners will work alongside ordinary workers, they will have the opportunity to adjust to normal life after release," Home Affairs Minister Shanmugan Jayakumar said.

"It will also inculcate in them a sense of self-worthiness and social responsibility," Mr. Bacy, chairman of the Sin-

gapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises (SCORE), told Reuters his agency would scout around for employers, negotiate contract terms and implement the scheme for perhaps 200 prisoners by the end of this year.

"We'll start moving the chaps out to areas where they are required, probably in construction industries and other sectors which hire a large number of foreign workers," he said.

"We will aim at the commercial and industrial sectors which require unskilled people like those who provide services for cleaning the stadium after a football match," he said.

Singapore has about 150,000 unskilled foreign workers, mostly in the construction industry.

A spokesman for the government-backed National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) said the scheme was commendable but its impact on the employment situation would be minimal.

Many contractors adopted a more cautious attitude. "We are worried that construction sites are open areas and if the convicts escaped, contractors could land in trouble," said one.

Mr. Jayakumar said long-term prisoners who did not have a record of serious crime or violence and posed no security threat would qualify under the scheme.

He said wages would be paid according to market rates. Prisoners would be allowed to retain enough money for fares and lunches. They would also be entitled to be included in a compulsory savings scheme under which an employer contributes 25 per cent of a worker's salary.

The rest of the money would be kept in a savings account and, with prisoners' consent, their family members could draw from it.

Prison officers would carry spot checks on prisoners' conduct and behaviour at work sites.

Botham strikes back for England in 6th cricket test Friday

LONDON (R) — England All-rounder Ian Botham struck twice to remove openers Andrew Hilditch and Graeme Wood after Australia had hauled themselves back into the sixth and final test at the Oval Friday.

After a bright opening stand which put on 35, Botham had Wood leg before for 22 and Hilditch caught hooking again for 17 as the tourists slipped to 56 for two for tea on the second day, in reply to England's 466 all out.

There was more heartache immediately after tea when Kepler Wessels was bowled by John Emburey for 12 to make the score 56 for three.

After the morning's performance during which Australia captured the last seven wickets for 88, it was a bitter blow, trailing 2-1 in the series, they need to win to retain the ashes.

Botham looked slightly fortunate to get the 15th decision against Wood, but the opener had earlier survived an easy catching chance to Emburey at first slip.

Hilditch fell yet again to the hook stroke, helping the ball to long leg where Graham Gooch took a comfortable face high

catch. England's collapse before lunch was totally unexpected after Thursday's vintage display.

Gooch, who had contributed 179 to England's overnight total of 376 for three, was the first to go, but not until he and nightwatchman Emburey had started the day with a flourish.

Gooch hit 11 runs off Geoff Lawson's first over in front of a packed crowd, eight coming from a glance and a cut for boundaries, while at the other end Emburey flashed one ball from Craig McDermott over the slips.

Gooch was removed, brilliantly caught and bowled by McDermott for 196 — his best test score.

After that it was a sorry tale as the Australian pacemen took command. Emburey went for nine. Allan Lamb for one, Botham for 12 and Richard Ellison for three.

South Korea ready to discuss Olympic proposals with the North

SEOUL (R) — South Korea pledged Friday to discuss any reasonable proposals by North Korea to avoid a Pyongyang boycott of the 1988 Seoul Olympics but spurned a demand to jointly stage the games.

Sports Minister Lee Young-Ho told a press conference Seoul would make a sincere effort to persuade the north to compete in the games when the two sides meet in Lausanne, Switzerland, next month for talks organised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

"We will be coming to these talks to discuss any reasonable proposals with an open mind to

facilitate the participation of North Korea in the 1988 Olympics," he said.

Lee rejected a northern proposal that the two Koreas jointly stage the games.

"There should be no more discussions on the issue because the IOC has already rejected the idea," he said.

Japanese newspapers on Thursday quoted North Korean officials as saying Pyongyang would boycott the games if its proposal was not accepted.

Lee said the North and South should exchange sports teams before 1988 to create a better atmosphere for the games and to

help ease tension between the two, which fought a three-year war ending in 1953.

"Our basic position, in general, is that we are ready to be engaged in all sports exchanges with North Korea," he said.

International Amateur Athletic Federation President Primo Nebiolo told the press conference he was satisfied with South Korea's preparations for the games.

Nebiolo, who was winding up a three-day visit, also agreed with the games' timetable under which most of the finals will be held before 2 p.m. local time to fit in with prime television time in the United States.

India-Sri Lankan bowlers struggle

COLOMBO (R) — India's top batsmen struggled against accurate Sri Lankan bowling on the first day of the first cricket test

against Sri Lanka here Friday.

When bad light ended play five minutes early India, after electing to bat first, had crawled to 184 for seven off 79.4 overs.

Pacemen Asantha de Mel with four wickets for 57 and Saliya Ahangama with two for 39 were the chief wreckers.

But another speedster, Ramesh Ratnayake, struck the first blow for the home side when he bowled Krishnamachari Srikkanth off an inside edge for only two out of a total of 19.

Ahangama had a dream test debut when he captured the prized wicket of Mohammed Azharuddin with only his third ball.

Azharuddin, dropped by Arjuna Ranatunga at second slip off Ratnayake, lasted another four balls before edging Ahangama to wicketkeeper Amal Silva.

With the total on 47, de Mel in his second spell tempted Dilip Vengsarkar to fence at a delivery outside the off stump and he was caught by Amal Silva.

Two runs later Lalchand Rajput, attempting to hook Ahangama, only succeeded in giving Silva his third catch of the morning.

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U.S. to attend Dubai chess Olympiad despite Israeli absence

GRAZ, Austria (R) — The U.S. chess team will attend the Olympiad in Dubai next year even though Israeli players will not get entry visas, Donald Schultz, the U.S. delegate to the World Chess Federation (FIDE) said Friday.

"But the general assembly has decided to appoint a committee to look at modifying the by-laws of FIDE with an eye to avoiding problems of visas and non-invasions arising in the future," he said.

The United Arab Emirates, host of the event, has said that as a member of the Arab League it is in a state of conflict with Israel.

Meanwhile (FIDE) President

Florencio Campomanes on Friday named two arbiters for the world chess title rematch between Anatoly Karpov and Garry Kasparov opening in Moscow on Tuesday.

Andre Malchev of Bulgaria and Vladislav Mikenas of the Soviet Union were named after the FIDE general assembly meeting in Graz changed the regulations to allow two chief referees.

U.S. Olympians fight in Atlanta

ATLANTA (AP) — Evander Holyfield remained unbeaten in his professional boxing career with a technical knockout over fellow American Rick Myers in a cruiserweight bout Thursday night.

Holyfield, who won a bronze medal at the Los Angeles Olympics last year, improved his record to 6-0 when the ring doctor stopped the bout after the first round because of cut over Myers' right eye. Myers' record is now 24-8-2.

Two other U.S. Olympians also fought in Atlanta Thursday night. Pernell Whitaker remained unbeaten by knocking out Teddy Hatfield in a lightweight bout.

seventh round against Sterling Benjamin, 8-7, in a scheduled eight-round contest.

Earlier in the evening, Jeff Bell scored a technical knockout over Mike English in a welterweight battle.

Cruiserweight Mike Fisher won a unanimous decision over Anun-anise Jackson and David Taylor won a unanimous decision over Al Addie in a junior welterweight bout.

Americans lead final-day swimming at Kube; Soviets dominate the golds

KOBE, Japan (AP) — American Mary T. Meagher won her fourth universiade gold medal Friday in her favourite 200-metre women's butterfly as six days of swimming competition concluded.

Her total of four golds and one silver matched the total won by Matt Biondi, who dropped out of a

men's medley relay Friday because of infection in the leg. The American team, led by head coach Don Lamont, took the other races on the final day, bringing to 17 its total number of gold medals in the 30-race programme.

The fifth gold of the day went to

Jolanda de Rover of the Netherlands, who outswam Michelle Donahue of the United States in the women's 200-metre backstroke.

Meagher, 20, did not match her world mark of 2 minutes, 5.96 seconds in the 200 butterfly, but her 2:07.32 shattered a games record of 2:13.50.

Kiyomi Takahashi, although a distant second in 2:13.87, brought Japan its only medal in swimming. Meagher anchored a winning American quartet in the 4x100-metre freestyle relay and also swam a leg in the 4x100-metre medley relay, also for a gold medal. She placed second in the 200-metre freestyle.

But while the Americans were winning four of the five races on the final day of swimming, breaking two universiade records, the Soviet Union gained four track and field golds in eight events.

That gave the Soviets 51 medals in all, including 24 golds. The United States had 18 golds in a total of 44 medals.

Italy won its first gold of the games Friday night when its women's foil fencing team trounced the Soviet 9-1 in the final.

In basketball the U.S. men's team beat the Soviet Union 93-88 Friday in a preliminary round game.

The Americans led 49-47 at halftime.

Chuck Person led the American scoring with 25 as he hit 11 of 19 attempts. Valdis Valters led the Soviets with 18 including three three-point goals.

Japan eliminated Australia 73-65 Friday after trailing 31-30 at halftime. Finland trounced Lebanon 160-43. Canada beat the Ivory Coast 90-57. Yugoslavia drubbed China 139-42. Bulgaria downed South Korea 77-66 and Egypt beat the United Arab Emirates 105-69.

G C E

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.3990/900	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3631/36	Canadian dollars
	2.7815/25	West German marks
	3.1310/25	Dutch guilders
	2.2840/55	Swiss francs
	56.35/40	Belgian francs
	8.5000/50	French francs
	1868/1869	Italian lire
	236.85/95	Japanese yen
	8.2825/925	Swedish crowns
	8.2100/200	Norwegian crowns
	10.1025/125	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	335.70/336.20	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed higher after a fairly active session with the market showing no reaction to the 0.4 per cent rise in index of U.S. July leading economic indicators or to the August rise in U.K. unemployment, dealers said. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was up 12.7 points at 1,336.6.

British Aerospace fully paid shares ended 11p better at 376 while the part paid gained 13p to 201 after the company reported increased interim pre-tax profits of £68.3 million. Gold shares were firmer on bargain hunting at the current low levels in more active trading than of late while North American shares and U.K. government bonds held steady in slack trading.

Among leaders, Blue Circle lost 7p to 513 on profit-taking after Thursday's gain and Plessey fell 8p to 142 on worries it may not now be granted the Pharmigam U.S. defence contract. ICI gained 17p to 674, Glaxo 22p to 1352 and P and O 5p to 401 while distillers added 5p to 356 and Thom EMI 5p to 414 on continued speculative demand.

Oils firmed, with B.P. up 15p at 585 in further reaction to Thursday's interims while British part paid put on 7p to 142.

Banks shrugged off recent worries over Third World debt problems with Barclays up 8p at 392. Insurances were firm but off the early highs in places with Royal up 5p at 663 after 666.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, AUG. 31, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Long-range plans considered during the daytime have a very good chance of being put into effect and succeed if you have studied every aspect of such future activities.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you schedule your time well, you can carry through with plans to make the future brighter, especially in business.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get in touch with loyal friends who have proven themselves in time of need or stress. Avoid a new contact in the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get busy and complete that work you have already started and tonight make out checks and pay pressing bills.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Set up dates for recreation that you have found pleasurable in the past, and be with congenials.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Make sure you keep any promises made to family ties, and be precise. Tonight, avoid work of all kind.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Good day to go after the data you need at right sources in order to make your labors easier and more profitable.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you are more careful in the handling of business and property, you will gain more benefits in the future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Rely on your past knowledge and experience to guide you in the future and have greater success. Use care in driving.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Have talks with elders who can give you fine advice for your betterment, as well as other members of your family.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Contact those persons who have helped you with your problems in the past and trust them to do likewise now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study into unfulfilling formulas that can help you to gain greater assets via accepted systems.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Being conventional today can bring you greater benefits and forget about new interests tonight. Enjoy solitude this evening.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will readily understand whatever is of a delicate nature and be able to handle the matter quietly, especially after reaching adulthood. Give a fine education and the career will start very early here.

USSR raises oil price

LONDON (R) — The Soviet Union Friday informed customers it would be charging a minimum of \$26.50 a barrel for its crude oil next month, 25 cents more than previously indicated and the second price rise in two weeks.

Contract customers said Moscow had advised them of the price increase either by telex or verbally. Smaller trading firms will have to pay an extra five to 10 cents on top of the minimum price, they added.

Last week the Soviet Union lifted its official price for the second half of August also by 25 cents to \$26.25 a barrel. The increases reflect a shortage of supplies and strong demand which has pushed up prices of non-contract or spot crude oil cargoes in recent weeks.

Soviet oil shipments through the Baltic were particularly tight, traders said. This had helped

Wheat purchases

Meanwhile a Soviet trade delegation will arrive shortly in New Delhi to discuss buying more of India's surplus wheat, although Moscow earlier complained it was damaged by pests and contained straw and bits of brick.

"The delegation will include food experts and technicians and will discuss prospects of buying more wheat from India," Soviet diplomatic sources said, but did not elaborate.

South Africa seeks U.S. banks' help

WASHINGTON (R) — The governor of South Africa's central bank planned to seek the help of U.S. bankers Friday on ways of resolving the financial crisis which now grips his violence-torn country.

Meanwhile, U.S. officials joined worried South African businessmen in pressing Pretoria to negotiate with black leaders, including some in jail, on ending apartheid.

Mr. Gerhard De Kock, governor of the South African Reserve Bank, was to meet New York bankers Friday and government representatives next week, U.S. and South African officials said.

The South Africans would give no details but bankers and economists said they believed Pretoria was trying to reschedule its short-term foreign debt payments and negotiate new standby credit.

South Africa's short-term foreign debt payments this year are estimated at \$12 billion.

That is far beyond the country's \$2.6 billion in cash reserves and estimated 1985 balance of payments surplus of \$2.5 billion.

A South African embassy spokesman said Mr. De Kock would meet Federal Reserve Bank (Bank) Chairman Paul Volcker and state department officials next week.

He said Mr. De Kock would also meet International Monetary Fund (IMF) officials, but a monetary source said he did not believe Pretoria would seek a further IMF loan.

The South African central banker was in London Thursday and is to return there and possibly go to other European capitals after his American visit for similar talks.

President P.W. Botha has halted South African trading in foreign currencies and stocks until Monday.

This followed a plunge in the value of the rand which was primarily the result of a refusal by some foreign banks to make new loans to South Africa.

'More states devalue currencies'

WASHINGTON (AP) — An increasing number of countries that get help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have had to devalue their currencies in terms of U.S. dollar and other hard money, a new study shows.

Often these changes are spread over time and are not abrupt devaluations from one day to the next, the report noted, but the effect is similar.

Excluding countries that belonged to currency unions, 93 per cent of those getting help from the fund in 1983 had to devalue, said the report prepared by a team under Mr. G.G. Johnson, a division supervisor in IMF's Washington headquarters, and made available this week. It noted that between 1971 and 1980 the proportion was 59 per cent.

When the fund, owned by the governments of 148 nations, lends money to a member country, the object is to help that country sell more goods than it buys. Thus it can pay back the loan to the fund and keep up payments on loans it had from banks and others.

One way is to lower the value of its currency, which discourages imports and makes it easier to sell the country's own goods abroad.

When Portugal devalued its currency by 12 per cent in June 1983, for example, the effect was to make goods from the United States and other countries that much more expensive for Por-

tuguese consumers and to give Portuguese exporters 12 per cent more escudos for whatever they could sell abroad.

The report tells how the fund and governments decide on changes in the value of currencies on the basis of what the change will do to help the country pay its international debts.

This approach is coming under criticism in poor countries.

Critics complain that austerity programmes push low living standards down even further, while tightening of belts has not yet encouraged banks in the United States and elsewhere to resume lending.

Poor countries want such loans for investments they hope will eventually make them less poor.

"In determining whether fund resources will be used to support a country's adjustment programme, the fund has to be satisfied that the policy changes adopted... will be sufficient to allow the balance of payments problem to be overcome and to permit timely (repayments) to be made without due strain," says the report.

The report shows that of 35 countries that signed up for a fund programme in 1983, a total of 25 devalued their currencies. The devaluations ranged from Ghana's 83 per cent and Zaire's 73 per cent, down to only 10 per cent for Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka's currency later went up in value, as did those of Malawi and Bangladesh.

The countries that did not devalue either belonged to the West African Monetary Union, which linked their currencies to the French franc, or were closely linked to the U.S. dollar, like Haiti.

World aluminium industry falls under pressure

LONDON — The latest round of dreary financial results from the major U.S. aluminium producers raises a tough question.

If the companies perform so badly when demand is strong, how will they survive the next slump?

The answer, according to some of their competitors, is that they will not survive in their present form. They will be forced, like the Japanese to get out of at least the primary end of the industry.

The answer, according to the Americans, is that the European and other foreign producers, who have been riding high on the buoyant U.S. market and the superdollar, will fall first and hardest when these two factors turn down.

Whoever is right, the outcome can no longer be far away.

The battle for the commanding heights of the world aluminium industry has been going on for so long that the financial strength of many of the combatants has been sapped.

Kaiser Aluminium and Chemical, one of the largest U.S. producers, has been losing money steadily since 1981. Swiss Aluminium of Switzerland also lost money for three years before returning to profit last year. Even the strongest companies, such as Canada's Alcan Aluminium and Aluminium Company of America (Alcoa), have not made reasonable profits since the late 1970s.

The industry's problem is the familiar one of overcapacity.

Western world capacity grew by 59 per cent during the 1970s to 13.8 million tonnes as more and more countries became interested in what was seen as a fast-growing metal of the future. But then consumption slowed, as plastics and other materials became more competitive.

When aluminium prices plunged in late 1980, companies initially thought that the slump would be short-lived, and so carried on producing for stock as the previous downturns. But by 1982, it was clear that the recovery would be slow in coming. That meant supply would remain excessive and prices depressed unless the highest cost producers shut down.

Industry officials agree that the amount of excess metal on the market is about 400,000 to 500,000 tonnes. What is less clear is how it is going to be mopped up.

Producers hope that, as in the past, new applications for aluminium will lead to big gains in consumption.

Unfortunately, there is no longer an obvious source of major cuts.

The cost factor that most determines the competitiveness of an aluminium smelter is electric power. It takes from seven to 12 kilowatt per hour (KWH) to make a pound of aluminium, depending on the efficiency of the smelter.

In Japan, aluminium producers pay as much as eight cents per KWH. At the metal's current market price of 48 cents, those producers would pay more for power than they would earn from selling the metal.

Not surprisingly, Japan's aluminium output has dropped by more than 80 per cent in the past four years, leaving only a couple of smelters, with relatively low-cost sources of electricity, turning out 200,000 tonnes a year.

These cuts — and a strong world economy — have helped ease the overcapacity problem.

In the past few months, many producers have halted their most costly smelters, and more closures have been announced, but so far to no avail. The market price has slid about 3 per cent since the beginning of the year.

Some say this is because consumers have learned to live with lower stocks and so the previous ratios of production to inventory no longer apply.

Others point out that while there have been cuts, because of significant productivity improvements at other smelters, actual supply has not changed much.

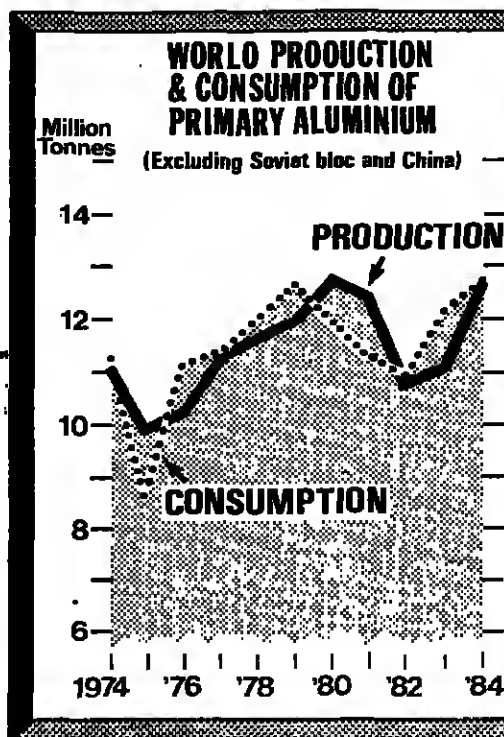
In June, total Western world production averaged 32,000 tonnes a day, virtually unchanged since last October.

Similarly, total inventories have swung in a very narrow range from 4.2 million to 4.4 million tonnes in the past nine months, compared with a peak of just over 5 million tonnes in early 1982, and a low of 3.7 million tonnes in December 1983.

Producers in the Third World, which accounts for another 12 per cent of capacity, are usually supported by governments and are likely to maintain output regardless of market conditions.

The best example today is Brazil where the government discourages plants closures, but also forbids export sales at the current low market prices.

That leaves the U.S. and European producers (excluding Norway) to absorb most of the swings in the market. A few years ago the big integrated companies,



Major groups

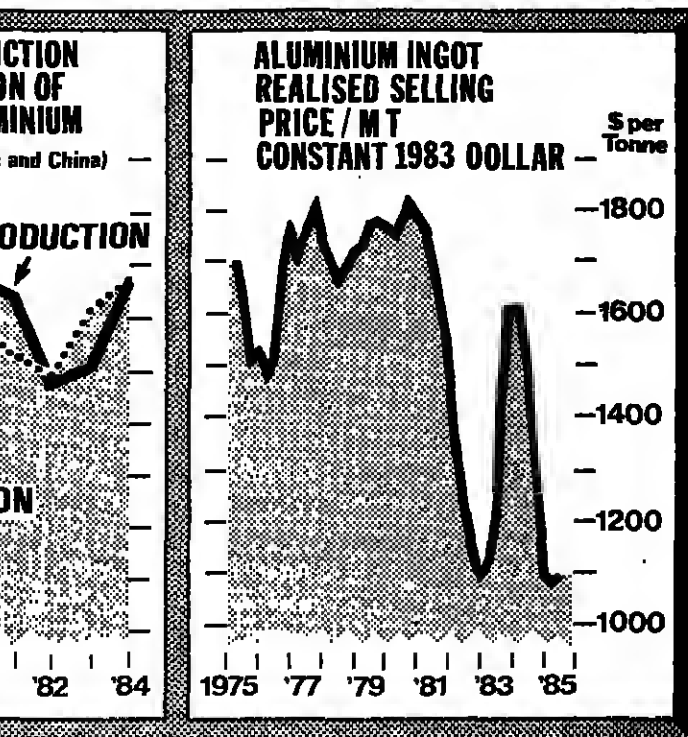
Aluminium producers today can be divided into three groups: — Canada, Norway, Australia and New Zealand.

Producers in these countries account for about 28 per cent of Western world capacity of 14.7 million tonnes. They have access to vast supplies of low cost power and, in the case of Australia, raw materials as well, and so they are — and will remain — among the most competitive. Indeed, they are still expanding capacity.

The developing countries, which accounts for another 12 per cent of capacity, are usually supported by governments and are likely to maintain output regardless of market conditions.

The best example today is Brazil where the government discourages plants closures, but also forbids export sales at the current low market prices.

That leaves the U.S. and European producers (excluding Norway) to absorb most of the swings in the market. A few years ago the big integrated companies,



Alcoa, Reynolds Metals, Kaiser, Pechiney and Alusuisse together with Alcan, controlled the market.

Now, even though they and other U.S. and European companies still account for roughly half of the Western world supply, they are the ones which are under pressure.

In the early 1980s, the Europeans looked particularly vulnerable. Many of their plants were old and inefficient and many faced high and rising electricity charges from local utilities.

One large smelter in Scotland did close in 1981, and for a while it looked as if others might follow.

Since then, however, the relative competitiveness of European smelters has improved dramatically, mainly because of currency movements.

Alcoa has calculated that the rise of the dollar against the French franc since 1980 has resulted in a 10 per cent swing in the comparative costs of French and U.S. aluminium producers.

Another problem is that the gap between the high-cost and low-cost smelters in the U.S. and Europe has narrowed considerably as

producers have closed old smelters and spent heavily to improve the efficiency of others.

"If you take off the top 10 per cent of smelters, all the rest of them are within 5 cents (per pound) of each other on production costs," Mr. Dick Schultz, Alcoa's primary metals marketing manager, says. "And even at 48 cents a pound, they are all covering their variable costs. That means there is no obvious closer, and everybody is saying, 'why should it be me?'"

The Europeans, led by Pechiney, argue that, regardless of currency movements, the Americans are condemned to become the industry's high-cost producers and should therefore bear most of the pain.

The Americans, who have dominated the industry from its inception in the last century and still account for about a third of Western world capacity, do not agree that the outlook for them is that poor. They acknowledge that there is no opportunity for building new smelters in the U.S. and that more smelters which rely on high-cost power must close.

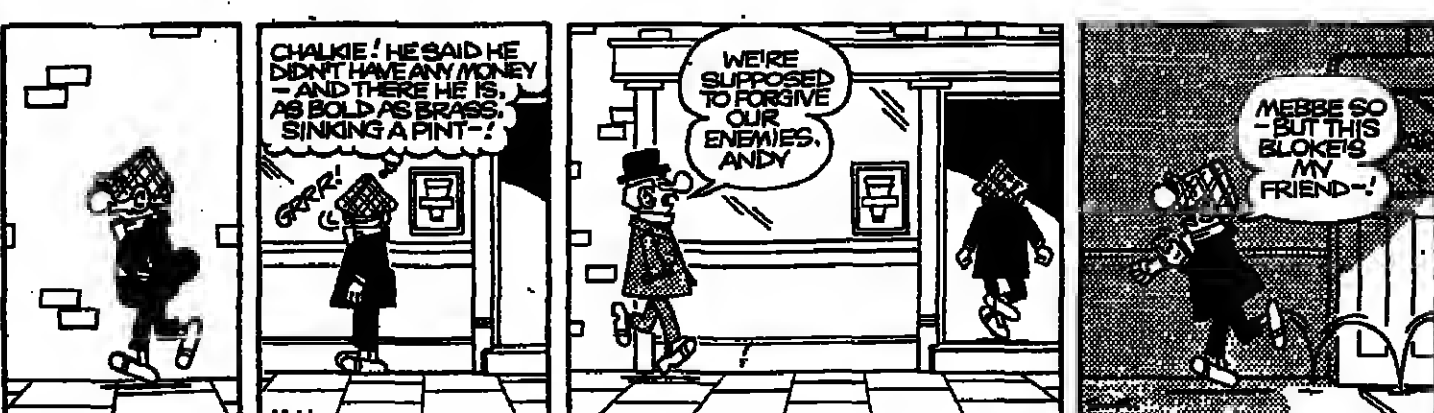
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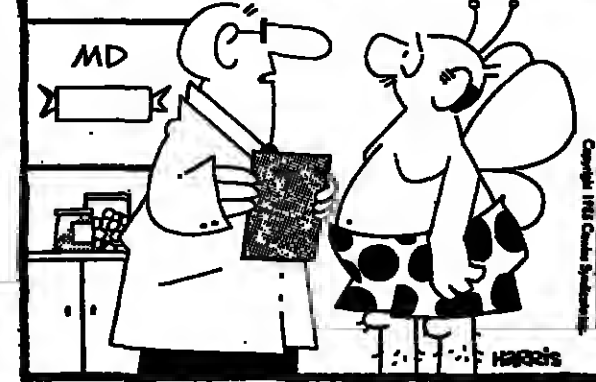
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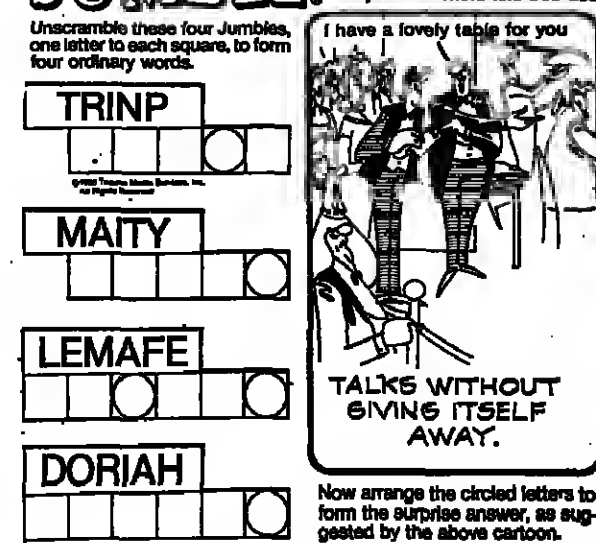
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(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLEAM UPPER ISLAND EIGHTY

Answer: What that twice-married swine could have been — A "PIG-AMIST"

Protests flare around Cape Town after death of 23 people in 3 days

CAPE TOWN (Agencies) — Renewed protests broke out in non-white suburbs of Cape Town Friday after a night of violence in which offices, liquor stores, schools and cars were ransacked or gutted by fire.

In the past three days at least 23 people have been killed. 20 of them in Cape Town, police and hospitals say. Most of the dead were shot by police. Scores of people have been injured and arrested.

A top-level European Community fact-finding mission is due in South Africa and is scheduled to visit the western Cape area for talks with President F.W. Botha.

After a brief lull early this morning, rioters watched teenagers, some in school uniforms, erect barricades of burning tyres and junk in the streets of Mitchells Plain, a coloured (mixed race) suburb.

Police fired rubber bullets to disperse the protesters while firemen attempted to extinguish the fires.

The Cape Town unrest flared on Wednesday when troops and police stamped out a planned protest march on Pollsmoor Jail holding black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela.

Churchman Allan Boesak, who planned the march, was detained without trial on Tuesday. Rev. Boesak, defined as coloured under apartheid, is highly popular among coloured youth in the Cape Town area.

Police headquarters in Pretoria also reported rioting in black townships across South Africa over the past 24 hours, despite a state of emergency imposed on parts of the country in July in a bid to curb unrest.

The latest victims included three coloured boys, aged 12, 13 and 16, shot to death Thursday as

police firing live ammunition raced through the worst-hit coloured district, partly middle-class Mitchells Plain, relatives reported.

Police in accordance with their practice of giving only minimal, once-daily bulletins on unrest, said Thursday — before the worst explosions in the coloured districts — that 16 blacks had been killed in clashes across the country since Wednesday. Most of those casualties were in Guguletu.

The state-controlled South African Broadcasting Corp. reported that at least 150 people, including 27 policemen, were wounded in Mitchells Plain and Guguletu since Thursday. Sixty-six people were arrested, the radio said.

Sections of Mitchells Plain, and the coloured districts of Swartkops, Athlone, Maitland and Bellville South, were in flames overnight.

Four office blocks, a high school, a government welfare office and two liquor stores were burned down in Mitchells Plain. In Bellville South, the remains of a gutted paint factory still smouldered, witnesses said. Maitland's public library was partly burned, and its windows smashed.

Commuters lined up at makeshift bus stops on the fringes of Mitchells Plain, cutting regular routes into the district.

A spokesman at Cape Town's Central Fire Station, who declined to be identified, said 36 emergency calls from black and coloured districts had been received in the previous 18 hours, but the situation appeared to have calmed.

In Durban, the main white opposition party, the Progressive Federal Party, opened its annual congress with renewed appeals for a national convention with all black leaders — including Mr. Mandela — to try to work out a power-sharing formula.



BLOCKED AVENUE — Renault workers of CGT union block the Champs-Elysees avenue early Thursday with 74 Renault cars made in Belgium, Spain and Portugal and imported to Spain Wednesday aboard special train (AP wirephoto)

Singapore parliament elects new president

SINGAPORE (AP) — Wee Kim Wee, unanimously elected president of the republic by the parliament Friday, is due to be installed at a swearing-in ceremony on Monday for the largely ceremonial position as Singapore's head of state.

Mr. Wee will be the first Chinese to become president of this city state of 2.5 million of whom 76 per cent are Chinese. 15 per cent Malays, 6 per cent Indians and the balance Eurasians and others.

Mr. Wee, 69, a former journalist, was Singapore's high commissioner to Malaysia from 1973 to 1980, served as ambassador to Japan from 1980 to 1984 and became Chairman of the state-owned Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in May this year.

A motion proposing his election was approved by all 77 members of the ruling People's Action Party (PAP) and the two opposition members representing the Workers Party and the Singapore Democratic Party.

The president's term is for four years.

India holds 600 during rail blockade protests

NEW DELHI (R) — Six hundred people were arrested and train services badly disrupted Monday during a one-day rail blockade to protest against the deportation of two Tamil guerrilla leaders, police said.

Tamil Nadu's Director General of Police K. Mohandas said many trains were held up by protesters picketing railway installations during the blockade called by the southern state's main opposition party, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

"But there were no incidents of violence," Mohandas told Reuters by telephone from Madras, capital of Tamil Nadu where India's 50 million Tamils live.

Opposition leaders pressed on with their campaign despite Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's effort to defuse the crisis by allowing one of two Sri Lankan Tamil leaders to return to India five days after they were deported.

Mr. Gandhi instructed immigration officials to revoke expulsion orders on Chelvanayagam Chandrabasan, head of the Organisation For Protection Of Tamils From Genocide, after the Tamil leader was detained at Bombay Airport on his return two days ago.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said up to 1,500 people squatted on rail tracks and 5,000 strong crowds gathered at some stations

in an effort to stop trains moving. Suburban services were cancelled in the state capital Madras and buses were brought in to move passengers.

Opposition members of the state assembly and national parliament were among those arrested, PTI said.

The deportations have raised state tensions amid Mr. Gandhi's drive to persuade guerrilla leaders and Sri Lankan authorities to resume negotiations to settle their ethnic dispute.

Peace talks collapsed in Bhutan on Aug. 17 after the two sides failed to find an acceptable devolution of power to Tamils in northern and eastern areas of Sri Lanka.

Mr. Gandhi then invited the guerrilla leaders to New Delhi but the plan ran into trouble over the expulsion of Mr. Chandrabasan, Anton Balasingham, of the hardline Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and K. Sateendra, of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), who left India before his deportation order was enforced.

TELO sources told Reuters guerrilla leaders were delaying their meeting with Mr. Gandhi because Mr. Balasingham, the LTTE's main political adviser was out of India and their military commander was not in Madras.

Peking 'deeply regrets' Seoul's pilot decision

PEKING (Agencies) — China said it deeply regretted Friday's decision by Seoul to allow a Chinese Navy pilot who crashlanded his bomber in South Korea to seek political asylum in Taiwan.

Western diplomats described the Chinese response to South Korea's decision announced earlier Friday as "extremely restrained."

A Chinese Foreign Ministry statement said: "The Chinese side once again demands the South Korean authorities return the entire crew of that aircraft to our side."

The South Korean government said the pilot of the bomber, Xiao Tianrun, would be allowed to go to Taiwan, while radio operator Liu Shuyi would be allowed to return to Peking, also at his request.

Taiwan officials welcomed the defection and said they were grateful to South Korea for the decision. Xiao, like other defecting Chinese pilots, is expected to get a large reward.

The body of the navigator, killed when the Soviet-designed H-5 bomber landed in a paddyfield on Saturday will be returned to China.

Seoul, which has no diplomatic ties with Peking, had been reported biding delicate separate talks with China and Taiwan on the issue.

The pilot told Korean interrogators he had planned to defect since 1980. He fooled his crew, telling them the rudder was broken and he needed to make an emergency landing about 170 kilometres south of Seoul.

South Korean officials said Xiao would face judicial action for violating Korean airspace but gave no details.

Western diplomats in Peking said China had no real choice but to react mildly to the South Korean announcement.

"The South Koreans have the person and there is no way they are going to change their minds about sending him to Taiwan," said one diplomat.

The pilot is the latest in a string

of Chinese defectors to embarrass both South Korea and China. The two countries are quietly trying to improve their relations, nonexistent for most of the past 30 years.

One Chinese Air Force pilot defected with his plane in 1982 and another in 1983. Both were allowed to go to Taiwan and their planes were not returned to China.

In Taipei, the Foreign Ministry said it hoped Xiao would arrive soon.

"The Republic of Korea treasures its friendly relations with us. We express our admiration and gratitude for its decision to respect human rights," a ministry statement said.

South Korea is the only Asian country which has diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

South Korean Culture and Information Minister Lee Won-Hong said the Korean government plans to return the wreckage of the bomber, its radio operator and the body of a navigator killed during the crash landing after negotiations with China.

The Ilyushin 28 (Hong-5) ran out of fuel and crashed in Iri, south of Seoul, last Saturday as South Korean fighter planes were escorting it to a U.S. Air Base in Kunsan. The navigator and a South Korean farmer working in a rice paddy died in the accident.

Mr. Lee said Xiao, deputy group commander, will be allowed to go to a third country of his choice in accordance with international law. The plane and its crew belong to the 7th Wing, 3rd Bomber Division, of the Chinese Navy, Mr. Lee added.

The pilot reportedly expressed his wish for political asylum while the radio operator has said he wishes to return to China, Mr. Lee said.

"Judicial action will be taken against pilot Xiao under the provisions of the domestic laws applicable to violations of Korea's territorial air space," Mr. Lee said. The Chinese airman who defected previously were not tried.

Pakistan detains Bhutto, hunts other opponents

KARACHI (R) — Police launched a big manhunt for opposition activists Friday following the arrest of leading political dissident Benazir Bhutto, her banned Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) said.

PPP sources said at least two activists were arrested early Friday, bringing the total detained since police began the crackdown Thursday to 18.

Police declined to give figures for the number in detention, but said many activists had gone underground because of fear of arrest and had not been detained.

The PPP's Karachi president, Nabi Dad Khan, told Reuters by telephone from a secret address that police launched the manhunt after detaining Benazir, daughter of executed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was ousted in 1977 and later hanged.

Benazir was put under house arrest Thursday. A leading opponent of military ruler Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, who toppled

her father, she returned to Karachi on Tuesday from her home town of Larkana after burying her brother Shah Nawaz.

Shah Nawaz, 26, was found dead in mysterious circumstances in his flat at Cannes in southern France on July 18. Benazir returned for the burial after 19 months of self-exile in Europe.

More than 100 policemen including plainclothes men were involved in the manhunt for the activists, who had chanted political slogans on Benazir's arrival at Karachi Airport and later drove her in a motorcade to her home on Tuesday night.

Political slogans and meetings are banned under martial law, imposed by Gen. Zia after he deposed Mr. Bhutto.

Benazir told several thousands supporters at her Karachi home on Tuesday: "If martial law is not lifted the people will not sit quiet. They will launch a struggle for their rights."

Court clears Ver in Aquino case

MANILA (R) — The supreme court ruled Friday that the testimonies of Philippine military chief Fabian Ver and seven others before an inquiry commission could not be used against them in the trial for the murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino.

Lawyers said the ruling cleared the way for swift acquittal of Gen. Ver, one of 26 people on trial in connection with the August 1983 killing of the former senator at Manila Airport.

Chief Justice Felix Makasari told reporters the ruling was 10 to 3 in favour of Gen. Ver, another general and six other defendants. The judges upheld an earlier decision of the trial court that self-incriminating testimonies were inadmissible as evidence.

President Ferdinand Marcos

has promised to reinstate Gen. Ver if he is acquitted, Gen. Ver and the six others have been named as accessories to the murder.

All prosecution evidence against them was their own testimony before the inquiry commission last year which named 25 soldiers and one civilian as indicable for the murder. It said Gen. Ver and the six others deliberately tried to mislead the inquiry.

The trial, which began in February, will resume on Monday following the supreme court ruling. Defence lawyers are expected to ask the court to dismiss the case against Gen. Ver and the seven before deciding the fate of others.

Gen. Ver's lawyer, Antonio Coronel, has already said his client's acquittal was a certainty.

Claudio Teehankee, the senior supreme court judge bypassed by Mr. Marcos the post of chief justice, was among the three judges who dissented from Friday ruling.

But Mr. Makasari, a former classmate of Mr. Marcos who was appointed chief justice last month supported the decision.

Prosecutors had appealed against the trial court ruling which said witnesses were constitutionally protected against giving evidence against themselves.

The supreme court said: "We cannot subscribe to the view adopted by the petitioner that the right against self-incrimination must be invoked ... in order to prevent use of any statement against the testifying witnesses in a subsequent criminal proceedings."

World body reviewing airline security

MONTREAL (AP) — The International Civil Aviation Organisation has received a blueprint for overhauling the rules governing airline security in response to recent terrorist acts against commercial aircraft.

Frederick Neal, British representative in the aviation agency, said Thursday a package of proposals from a working group of the organisation's Committee on Unlawful Interference has been drafted for presentation on Sept. 13 to the agency's 33-member council.

Mr. Neal said he expected little disagreement over the recommendations.

"It's one of the areas where there is a completely common aim — no one wants their aircraft hijacked or blown up," he said in a telephone interview.

The changes, which may be made public before the Sept. 13 meeting, would overhaul annex 17 of the 1944 Chicago Convention, the treaty serving as the charter for the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

Annex 17 contains mandatory procedures and recommended practices for the 156 member states to follow in combating terrorism and air piracy. The annex would be recast if the proposals are approved, said Mr. Neal.

It also proposes numerous revisions and additions, including a provision that member states have emergency plans ready to deal with aircraft hijackings.

The committee on unlawful interference undertook a review of aviation security at the behest of the council following a rash of known or suspected terrorist acts in June.

These included the June 23 bomb explosion at Tokyo's Narita Airport which killed two baggage handlers and the mysterious crash the same day of Air India flight 182 with the loss of 329 lives, mostly Canadians of Indian descent.

The proposals from the working group deal with situations not envisioned in annex 17, such as preventing the carriage of luggage for no-show passengers, people who check a bag onto a flight but don't board the aircraft.

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Poisonous anti-freeze found in Japanese wine

TOKYO (R) — A leading Japanese wine firm which boasted its liquor was safe is withdrawing six of its blended wines from sale because of fears they may contain poisonous anti-freeze, a company spokesman said Friday.

A Tokyo laboratory found two of the wines, made from a blend of Austrian and Japanese wines, contained diethylene glycol, the solvent at the centre of the Austrian wine scandal. Tokyo health officials said.

A spokesman for Manns Wine Co. which handles about 20 per cent of Japan's wine market, told Reuters it was removing from the shops the two wines and four other brands that also contained the same imported Austrian wine.

One of the wines, a white 1978 Manns Estate Kieu, sells at about 30,000 yen (\$255) a bottle.

Kyodo News Service quoted Manns President Katsuyasu Ueno as saying 210,000 bottles of the six brands had been distributed, and would be recalled as quickly as possible.

The health ministry ordered that wines made from a mixture of homegrown and imported wine should be tested after 68 brands of imported Austrian and West German wine were found to contain diethylene glycol, commonly used as an anti-freeze. It is used to make wine sweeter but is also poisonous.

Early this month the ministry said tests had shown Japanese wines were free of diethylene glycol. A few days later Manns launched an advertising campaign saying its wines were safe.

But the Manns spokesman said the firm started recalling some of its blended wines earlier this month on suspicion that they might contain the solvent. The company itself did not add chemicals to its wine, he said.

The anti-freeze came to light when an unhappy consumer whose identity is not known took two bottles of Manns wines to a laboratory for tests.

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COLUMN

Sultan of Brunei's palace catches fire

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — The Sultan of Brunei's \$250-million palace caught fire Thursday night but the extent of damage was not immediately known, the Malaysian National News Agency Bernama reported Friday. The agency quoted sources in Brunei's capital Bandar Seri Begawan as saying that the fire was believed to have started at about 11.30 p.m. (1530 GMT) on a small portion of the palace's roof. Firemen in eight fire engines managed in 30 minutes, the agency said. The sources said that security was tight around the palace where a large crowd had gathered. The cause of the fire was not known. Brunei is a small oil-rich sultanate on the island of Borneo which gained independence from Britain on Jan. 1, 1984.

Irwin gives up hunt for Noah's Ark

ANKARA (R) — Retired astronaut James Irwin came down from Mount Ararat in eastern Turkey after abandoning his fourth attempt to find the remains of Noah's Ark, the Anamlian News Agency reported. It said Irwin and five colleagues who began a climb last Saturday under army protection from Kurdish guerrillas, returned to the city of Erzurum, vowing to try again. Irwin has tried each year since 1982 to find the remains of the vessel which the Book of Genesis says God ordered Noah to build to save mankind and animals from a great flood. Irwin walked on the moon in 1971 as a member of the U.S. Apollo-15 mission. He believes the remains of the Ark are near the permanent ice-cap of the 5,165-metre mountain.

5 policemen being sought for rape

DHAKA, (AP) — Warrants have been issued for the arrest of five policemen being sought for the alleged rape of a 20-year-old woman in Pabna district. 175 kilometres north west of here, the daily Dainik Desh said Friday. The daily said the five constables from Vangura in Pabna district raped Shefali Begum at her home two weeks ago. The five have since fled. Meanwhile, Bangladesh Mobilia Parishad, a powerful private human rights organisation, in a statement Thursday night asked the government to take legal measures to reject bail for people involved in rape cases. The demand came amid a rash of rapes and kidnappings of women and girls in the last few months. An unofficial estimate put rape cases across the country in the last three months at more than 70. Mobilia Parishad recently protested the granting of bail to a man held on charges of raping a three-year-old in a Dhaka residential area. Police sources said a police constable had also been arrested on charges of killing a 22-year-old prostitute in Jessore, northwest Bangladesh, last week.

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OWAR ABARIB
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THE TALE OF THE SIX OF DIAMONDS
DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands we consider to be the best. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series we will go back to our weekly question and answer column. Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ A 10 7 4 3
♥ A K 4 3
♦ 2
♣ Q 9 6

EAST
♠ K Q 8 6 2
♥ 9 6
♦ J 5
♣ 8 5 4 2

WEST
♠ J 3
♥ Q J 10 8 5
♦ Q 10 8 4
♣ 7 3

SOUTH
♠ 5
♥ 7 2
♦ A K 9 7 6 3
♣ A K J 10

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♥ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
3 NT Pass 4 ♠ Pass
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass
Oppen lead: Queen of ♣.

The Six of Diamonds was fuming as he strutted around the lobby of the hotel. "It was disgraceful," he thundered. "He made a laughing stock of me in front of my peers."

The incident that had provoked this outburst occurred during the Life Master Pair Championship for

HANOI (R) — United States and Vietnamese officials have said they had productive and substantive talks on settling the issue of American servicemen missing in action (MIA) in the Vietnam war.

U.S. delegation head Richard Childress told reporters after a two-day meeting that both sides had drawn up separate working plans which a joint technical group would try to reconcile soon.

He refused to go into details but said: "We've reached some very good basic understanding."

He said the U.S. expressed its appreciation to Vietnam for its commitment in settle the MIA issue within two years and "our hope for productive efforts in the

future which we feel are coming."

Acting Vietnamese Foreign Minister Vo Dong Giang said he agreed with the U.S. assessment that the talks were "very productive and substantive."

He said the possibility of a higher level meeting on the MIA issue was discussed but no dates were set.

Mr. Giang said the question of a U.S. liaison office in Hanoi in speed up settlement of the MIA issue would be discussed at the higher-level conference.

He said Vietnam would welcome U.S. financial assistance in the search and excavation of MIA remains but would not request it. "What we expect from the U.S.